

LONDON:

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INTRODUCTION.

LORD BROUGHAM has, in a somewhat paradoxical spirit, compared history to an old almanack; meaning it, of course, to be inferred that both lose a large portion of their value when the periods they were respectively intended to illustrate have passed away; and that in the present age of railroad or rather "electrical" progress, the events or phenomena of one year can hardly be expected to prefigure those of another. The rapid march of science, and the almost magical character of the discoveries that are daily brought to light in every department of human knowledge, render it, it is true, some of the records of by-gone times "flat, stale, and unprofitable" as a "thrice-told tale." The stigma which attaches to an old almanack has long ago passed into a proverb; but we have, at length, arrived at an era in which the historical incidents and scientific discoveries of every successive year would seem to cast into shade those of its predecessors; so that almanacks are now no more liable to reproach on such grounds than any other repository of scientific invention or historical fact. The "certainties" of astronomical science have, indeed, given them, latterly, some advantages over other public channels of information; for the predictions of one year are now founded on so secure a basis, that they become the facts of another; and that which is merely prophetic to-day, becomes historical to-morrow. The philomath of a former age was accustomed to enliven his astrological and astronomical details by random attempts to dive into futurity, which were deprived of all interest the instant they were falsified; and, its purpose accomplished, his book thenceforward became a dead letter. Hence the empirical character of his labours, and the reproach that usually attached to them, when the yearly cycle of his popularity had revolved. But a new order of things has arisen; and, thanks to the improved character of publications of this class, the Almanack of a former year may be as full of instructive matter at the present time as it was when it first issued from the press; having simply exchanged predictions for the future, for records of the past.

The great popularity to which the ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK has attained, has satisfied its publishers that, in calculating on the favourable acceptance of a work presenting a practical view of the state of modern astronomical science, they did not misinterpret the wants of the public. Independently of the intelligence usually included in an Almanack, they have endeavoured to make their work a repository of the leading astronomical memoranda of the year; and to introduce into each succeeding volume some feature of practical usefulness, that might assist in giving freshness and novelty to their plan. The largely augmented demand which has arisen, of late years, for astronomical instruments, and the numerous additions which have been made to private observatories (we may instance, among others, those of Dr. Lee, at Hartwell; of Mr. Whitbread, at Cardington; of Mr. Bishop, in the Regent's Park; of Messrs. Lassell, Lawson, and Barclay; and of the Midland Observatory, at Nottingham) abundantly attest the increased diffusion of the taste for astronomical pursuits; and encourage the belief that it will, in a few years, be yet more widely disseminated. Another characteristic of modern astronomical science, which may be regarded as a proof of this increase in the number of its devotees, is to be found in the recent discoveries of small planets; indicating, not only a greater degree of vigilance on the part of the amateur, but a considerable advance in the science of optics,* not to mention a sensible improvement in the manufacture of object glasses for telescopes, arising out of the competition which an increased demand is always certain to create. At a time, therefore, when astronomy is receiving an important impetus, both from the astronomical instrument-maker and the optician, whose improvements have rendered their instruments not only more perfect, but considerably less expensive than they formerly were, it is not too much to anticipate, with some degree of confidence, that an effort to open new sources of information as to the mechanical aids and appliances of the science, will not fail to be duly appreciated; the more especially when that information is conveyed to the public in a form and at a price which renders it accessible to the humblest tyro in the pursuit.

The extravagant theories of Astrology, originating in credulity, and fostered by ignorance, are fast melting away, before the broad light of practical science; but, as the delusion still exists, and is not altogether confined to the uneducated and the superstitious, it becomes the province of all honest disseminators of genuine scientific knowledge to aid in disabusing the public mind of the imposture. The effect of a sedulous cultivation of Astronomical Science is to promote the growth of religious faith, and to stimulate in the human heart admiration of the most glorious and wonderful works of the Creator. The man who lifts his aspirations to the stars, "which are the poetry of heaven," can have little room in his breast for the more grovelling desires of ordinary humanity, and learns from those glowing pages, the art, if not of conquering worlds, at least of discovering them; and of acknowledging, with devout awe and deep humility, "that the hand which made them is divine."

In presenting to the public the ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK for the *ninth* time, its publishers take leave to direct the notice of their readers to the fact, that, whilst they have devoted their chief attention to the Calendrical and Astronomical tables and notices (the most vital and important features of a work of its class), and have endeavoured to render them authorities on such subjects, by confiding the compilation to a gentleman of acknowledged scientific reputation—Mr. Glasbier, of the Greenwich Observatory—they have not been insensible to the collateral attractions of literature and art; although they have been compelled to regard them only as accessorial to the leading aim of the work: and whilst, in the preceding volumes they have endeavoured to illustrate the respective months by descriptions of country life and rural occupations, from the pens of our most popular writers on such topics,—they have been induced, on the present occasion, to introduce a series of sketches of society in the metropolis and its neighbourhood; and to select scenes and subjects for the artist from the more bustling arenas of town or suburban life. In a word, they have attempted—they trust not unsuccessfully—to combine, with the scientific information which is best calculated to illustrate and explain the astronomical occurrences of the year, such collateral attractions as may help to give a value to their publication of a more permanent character than usually attaches to works of the kind. In their next volume they hope to be enabled to introduce some novelty of plan, so far as its lighter features are concerned, that will give increased interest and attraction to its pages.

* For an account of the recent improvements in optics, vide Report of Class X. of the Great Exhibition, by JAMES GLAISHER, Esq., F.R.S., Reporter.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1853.

ON THE CALENDAR.

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF THE CALENDAR, FOR THE YEAR 1853.

	Gregorian, or New Calendar	Julian or Old Calendar.
Dominical Letter	B	D
Golden Number	11	11
Roman Indiction	11	11
Solar Cycle	14	14
Epat	20	1

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE YEAR 1853 WITH ANCIENT ERAS.

The year 1853, till October 2, is the latter part of the 5613th, and from October 3, is the first part of the 5614th year since the creation of the world, according to the Jews.

The year 1853 is the 6566th year of the Julian Period.

The year 1853 is the 2606th year from the foundation of Rome (according to Varro).

The year 1853 is the 2600th year since the era of Nabonassar, which has been assigned to Wednesday, the 26th of February; of the 3967th year of the Julian Period, which corresponds, according to chronologists, to the 747th, and, according to astronomers, to the 746th year before the birth of Christ.

The year 1853 is the 2629th year of the Olympiads; or the first year of the 658th Olympiad will commence in July, 1853, if we fix the era of the Olympiads at 775½ years before Christ, or at or about the beginning of July of the year 3938 of the Julian Period.

The year 1853 is the latter part of the 1269th, and the first part of the 1270th year (of twelve lunations) since the Hegira, or flight of Mahomet, which it is generally supposed took place on the 12th of July, in the year 622 of the Christian era. The year 1269 commenced on the 13th of December, 1852, and ends October 3, 1853. And the year 1270 commences on October 4, 1853.

CALENDAR OF THE JEWS FOR THE YEAR 1853.

5613.	1852.	NEW MOONS AND FEASTS.
Tebeth .. 1	December .. 12	Rosh Hodesh, or New Moon.
" .. 10	" .. 21	Fast: Siege of Jerusalem.
Schobab .. 1	January .. 10	New Moon
Adar .. 1	February .. 9	New Moon
" .. 14	" .. 22	Little Purim
" .. 15	" .. 23	New Moon
" .. 16	" .. 24	Fast: Esther
" .. 17	" .. 25	Purim
" .. 18	" .. 26	Little Purim
" .. 19	" .. 27	New Moon
" .. 20	" .. 28	Passover begins*
" .. 21	" .. 29	Second day
" .. 22	" .. 30	Seventh day*
" .. 23	" .. 31	Passover ends*
Ijar .. 1	May .. 9	New Moon
" .. 18	" .. 26	Lag Beomer
Sivan .. 1	June .. 7	New Moon
" .. 6	" .. 12	Pentecost Holidays: Feast of Weeks*
" .. 7	" .. 13	Second day*
Tammuz .. 1	July .. 7	New Moon
" .. 18	" .. 24	Fast: Seizure of the Temple by Titus
Ab .. 1	August .. 5	New Moon
" .. 10	" .. 14	Fast: Destruction of the Temple*
Elul .. 1	September .. 4	New Moon
5614.		
Tisri .. 1	October .. 3	Feast of the New Year*
" .. 2	" .. 4	Second day of the Feast*
" .. 3	" .. 5	Fast: Death of Gedaliah
" .. 10	" .. 12	Fast: Day of Atonement*
" .. 15	" .. 17	Feast of Tabernacles*
" .. 16	" .. 18	Second day of the Feast*
" .. 21	" .. 23	Feast of Branches
" .. 22	" .. 24	End of the Feast of Tabernacles*
" .. 23	" .. 25	Feast of the Law*
Marchesvan .. 1	November .. 2	New Moon
Kislev .. 1	December .. 2	New Moon
" .. 25	" .. 26	Feast of the Dedication of the Temple
1854.		
Tebeth .. 1	January .. 1	New Moon
" .. 10	" .. 10	Fast: Siege of Jerusalem

The Anniversaries marked with an asterisk (*) are to be strictly observed.

The Jewish Year contains 354 days, or 12 Lunations of the Moon; but, in a cycle of 19 years, an intercalary month (Veadar) is 7 times introduced, for the purpose of rendering the average duration of the year nearly correct.

DURATION OF THE SEASONS, AND THE YEAR 1853.

The Sun will be in the	Winter	signs	89 Days	1 Hour	11 Minutes
"	Spring	"	92	20	59
"	Summer	"	93	14	14
"	Autumn	"	89	17	35

So that the period of Summer is 4 days, 13 hours, and 3 minutes longer than that of Winter; 17 hours and 15 minutes longer than that of Spring; and 3 days, 20 hours, and 39 minutes longer than that of Autumn.

	D. H. M.	O. "
The Sun will be on the Equator and going North	March 20 4 24 P.M., his declin. being	0 0 0
The Sun will reach his greatest North declination	June 21 1 23 P.M., his declin. being	23 27 32
The Sun will be on the Equator and going South	Sept. 23 3 37 A.M., his declin. being	0 0 0
The Sun will be at his greatest South declination	Dec. 21 9 12 P.M., his declin. being	23 27 33

The Sun will be North of the Equator (comprising the periods of Spring and Summer) 186 days 11 hours 13 minutes.

The Sun will be South of the Equator (comprising the periods of Winter and Autumn) 178 days 18 hours 46 minutes.

The length of the Tropical Year, commencing at the Winter Solstice 1852, and ending at the Winter Solstice 1853, is 365 days 5 hours 59 minutes.

BEGINNING OF THE SEASONS, 1853.

			D. H. M.	
The Sun enters	Capricornus	(Winter begins)	1852, Dec. 21	3 13 P.M.
"	Aries	(Spring begins)	1853, Mar. 20	4 24 P.M.
"	Cancer	(Summer begins)	" June 21	1 23 P.M.
"	Libra	(Autumn begins)	" Sept. 23	3 37 A.M.
"	Capricornus	(Winter begins)	" Dec. 21	9 12 P.M.

FIXED AND MOVEABLE FESTIVALS, ANNIVERSARIES, &c.

Epiphany	Jan. 6	Pentecost—Whit Sunday ..	May 15
Septuagesima Sunday ..	23	Trinity Sunday ..	22
Martyrdom of King Charles I. ..	30	Birth of Queen Victoria ..	24
Quinquagesima—Shrove Sun. ..	Feb. 6	Corpus Christi ..	26
Ash Wednesday	9	Restoration of King Chas. II. ..	29
Quadragesima—1st Sunday ..	13	Accession of Queen Victoria ..	June 20
St. David	March 1	Proclamation ..	21
St. Patrick	17	St. John Baptist—Midsum- ..	24
Palm Sunday	20	Birth of Prince Albert ..	August 26
Annunciation—Lady Day ..	25	St. Michael—Michaelmas Day ..	Sep. 29
Good Friday	25	Gunpowder Plot ..	Nov. 5
EASTER SUNDAY	27	Birth of Prince of Wales ..	9
Low Sunday	April 3	1st Sunday in Advent ..	27
St. George	23	St. Andrew ..	30
Rogation Sunday	May 1	St. Thomas ..	Dec. 21
Ascension Day—Holy Thursday ..	5	CHRISTMAS DAY ..	25

MOHAMMEDAN CALENDAR FOR THE YEAR 1853.

Year.	Names of the Months.	Month begins.
Hegiri; 1269,	Rebia I. ..	December 13, 1852.
"	Rebia II. ..	January 12, 1853.
"	Gomedhi I. ..	February 10, "
"	Gomedhi II. ..	March 12, "
"	Rejeb ..	April 10, "
"	Scheban ..	May 10, "
"	Ramedan (Month of Fasting) ..	June 8, "
"	Schewale .. (Bairam)	July 8, "
"	Dsu'l-Kadah ..	August 6, "
"	Dsu'l-hejjah ..	September 5, "
Hegiri; 1270.	Moharrem I. ..	October 4, "
"	Safar I. ..	November 3, "
"	Rebia I. ..	December 27, "
"	Rebia II. ..	January 1, 1854.

(For remarks on the Mohammedan year, see the Almanack for 1843.)

ASTRONOMICAL SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS.

☉ The Sun	Irene	E East
☾ New Moon	Eunomia	S South
☾ First Quarter of Moon	Junio	W West
☾ Full Moon	Ceres	° Degrees
☾ Last Quarter of Moon	Pallas	' Minutes of Arc
☿ Mercury	Hygeia	" Seconds of Arc
♀ Venus	Thetis	D Days
♂ or ♀ The Earth	Psyche	H Hours
♂ Mars	Melpomene	M Minutes of Time
♂ Flora	Fortuna	S. Seconds of Time
♂ Victoria	Massilia	☉ Sunday
♂ Vesta	Jupiter	☾ Monday
♂ Iris	Saturn	☾ Tuesday
♂ Metis	Uranus	☾ Wednesday
♂ Hebe	Neptune	☾ Thursday
☾ Parthenope	Ascending Node	☾ Friday
☾ Egeria	Descending Node	☾ Saturday
♂ Astrea	N North	

The Symbol ☿ Conjunction, or having the same Longitude or Right Ascension
☐ Quadrature, or differing 90° in Longitude or Right Ascension.
☿ Opposition, or differing 180° in Longitude or Right Ascension.

(For explanation of Astronomical terms, see Almanack for the year 1843.)

SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC.

Spring Signs	{ 1 ♈ Aries 2 ♉ Taurus 3 ♊ Gemini	Autumn Signs	{ 7 ♎ Libra 8 ♏ Scorpio 9 ♐ Sagittarius
Summer Signs	{ 4 ♋ Cancer 5 ♌ Leo 6 ♍ Virgo	Winter Signs	{ 10 ♑ Capricornus 11 ♒ Aquarius 12 ♒ Pisces

LAW TERMS, 1853.

As Settled by Statutes 2 George IV., 1 William IV., cap. 70, s. 6 (passed July 23rd, 1830), and 1 William IV., cap. 3, s. 2 (passed December 23rd, 1830).

Hilary Term	Begins January 11	Ends January 31
Easter Term	" April 15	" May 9
Trinity Term	" May 22	" June 13
Michaelmas Term	" Nov. 2	" Nov. 25

UNIVERSITY TERMS, 1853.

OXFORD.

TERM.	BEGINS.	ENDS.
Lent	January 14	March 19
Easter	April 6	May 14
Trinity	May 18	July 9
Michaelmas	October 10	December 17

The Act, July 5.

CAMBRIDGE.

TERM.	BEGINS.	DIVIDES.	ENDS.
Lent	Jan. 13	Feb. 14, Noon	March 18
Easter	April 6	May 22, Midnight	July 8
Michaelmas	Oct. 10	Nov. 12, Midnight	Dec. 16

The Commencement, July 5.

JANUARY

Day of Month	Day of Week	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, PES- TIVALS, &c.	SUN.				MOON.				DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.				HIGH WATER				Day of the Year.
			SOUTHS.				SOUTHS.				Before Sunrise.				After Sunset.				
			Rises.	After 12 o'Clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Morning.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	O'Clock.	Moon's Age.	O'Clock.	Moon's Age.	Morning.	No Tide.	Afternoon.		
1	S	Circumcision	8 8	3 59	15 1/4	4 0	10 55	4 44	47 1/2	11 35		21			5 45	6 10		1	
2	S	2d S. aft. CHRIST.	8 8	4 27	15 1/4	4 1	Morning.	5 32	41 1/2	11 54		22			6 35	6 55		2	
3	M	Length of day 7h 54m	8 8	4 54	15 1/4	4 2	0 16	6 21	35 1/2	Afternoon		23			7 25	7 55		3	
4	Tu	Venus in conjunction with Jupiter at 9h 48m A.M.	8 8	5 22	15 1/4	4 3	1 37	7 11	29 1/2	0 31		24			8 25	9 0		4	
5	W	[Twelfth Day.	8 8	5 49	16 1/4	4 4	3 1	8 3	24 1/2	0 54		25			9 35	10 10		5	
6	Th	Epiph. Old Ch.D.	8 7	6 15	16 1/4	4 6	4 25	8 58	19 1/2	1 23		26			10 50	11 25		6	
7	F	Jupiter in conjunction with the Moon at 5h 39m A.M.	8 7	6 42	16 1/4	4 7	5 49	9 57	16 1/2	2 0		27			11 55	No Tide.		7	
8	S	Lucian. Fire Ins.d.	8 7	7 7	16 1/4	4 8	7 5	10 58	14 1/2	2 49		28			0 25	0 55		8	
9	S	1st S. aft EPIPH.	8 6	7 32	16 1/4	4 9	8 9	11 59	13 1/2	3 51		29			1 22	1 50		9	
10	M	Plough Monday	8 6	7 57	16 1/4	4 10	9 1	Afternoon	15 1/2	5 2		30			2 15	2 40		10	
11	Tu	Hilary Term b.	8 5	8 21	16 1/4	4 11	9 39	1 55	18 1/2	6 19		31			3 5	3 25		11	
12	W	[Y'sd. Cam.T.b.	8 4	8 44	17 1/4	4 13	10 7	2 46	21 1/2	7 34					3 50	4 10		12	
13	Th	St. Hil. Old New	8 3	9 7	17 1/4	4 14	10 30	3 34	26 1/2	8 49					4 30	4 50		13	
14	F	Ox. Term begins	8 2	9 29	17 1/4	4 16	10 48	4 18	31 1/2	9 59					5 10	5 30		14	
15	S	Length of night 15h 44m	8 2	9 50	17 1/2	4 18	11 5	5 0	36 1/2	11 8					5 50	6 10		15	
16	S	2d S. aft EPIPH.	8 1	10 11	17 1/4	4 19	11 20	5 42	41 1/2	Morning.					6 30	6 55		16	
17	M	Uranus in conjunction with the Moon at 5h 45m P.M.	8 0	10 31	17 3/4	4 21	11 37	6 23	46 1/2	0 16					7 10	7 35		17	
18	Tu	Prisca. Old T.D.	7 59	10 50	18 1/4	4 22	11 54	7 5	51 1/2	1 24					8 0	8 30		18	
19	W	Pleiades due S. at 7h 43m P.M.	7 58	11 8	18 1/4	4 24	Afternoon	7 49	55 1/2	2 30					9 0	9 35		19	
20	Th	Fabian	7 57	11 26	18 1/2	4 26	0 38	8 35	58 1/4	3 36					10 5	10 40		20	
21	F	Agnes	7 56	11 43	18 3/4	4 27	1 8	9 24	60 1/4	4 45					11 15	11 50		21	
22	S	Vincent	7 55	11 59	19 1/4	4 29	1 51	10 16	62 1/2	5 49					No Tide.	0 20		22	
23	S	SEPTUAGESIMA S	7 54	12 15	19 1/4	4 31	2 41	11 9	62 1/2	6 44					0 45	1 10		23	
24	M	Sirius souths at 10h 22m P.M.	7 53	12 29	19 1/4	4 33	3 39	Morning.		7 34					1 30	1 55		24	
25	Tu	Convers. St. Paul	7 51	12 43	19 1/2	4 35	4 50	0 4	60 1/2	8 18					2 14	2 35		25	
26	W	Mars in conjunction with the Sun at 6h 35m P.M.	7 50	12 56	19 3/4	4 37	6 5	0 57	56 3/4	8 50					2 55	3 15		26	
27	Th	Aldebaran S at 7h 59m P.M.	7 48	13 8	20 1/4	4 39	7 25	1 50	53 3/4	9 18					3 30	3 50		27	
28	F	Day increased 1h 7m	7 47	13 19	20 1/4	4 40	8 44	2 41	48 3/4	9 39					4 10	4 30		28	
29	S	[K. Chas. I. Mar.	7 45	13 30	20 1/2	4 41	10 5	3 30	43 1/2	10 0					4 50	5 5		29	
30	S	SEXAGESIMA S.	7 44	13 39	21 1/4	4 43	11 26	4 19	37 1/4	10 18					5 30	5 50		30	
31	M	Hilary Term ends	7 43	13 48	21 1/4	4 45	Morning.	5 8	31 1/4	10 37					6 10	6 35		31	





RECREATIONS ON THE ICE.

SCATTERED far and wide as are the various members of families during the more genial seasons of the year; the winter months which once more reunite them in their various homes bring solace and compensation for the absence of sunshine and bright flowers, in the form of social and domestic enjoyments; never so well appreciated as when the weather, by its frigid ungeniality without, presents a marked contrast to the bright cheerfulness to be found within. Our own country has been charged of late, and not unreasonably, with having completely changed its climate, and with presenting

little beyond alternations of the sullen dry day and the chilliness of the less welcome wet one; with too few of the more picturesque, if sterner, features of deep snow and sharp frost, to vary the aspect of nature. So complete, indeed, has been the alteration of climate presented during the more recent years, that it would almost seem as though

the genuine old-fashioned season which was wont to clothe the earth in a snowy robe for at least a few days, and to bind it for weeks in the icy chains of frost, had departed from us for ever. Whatever amount of thankfulness and congratulation this amenity or amelioration of season may afford to the poor and the homeless, it will scarcely be deemed an advantage to the well-clad, well-fed, well-housed—in short, to the more fortunate grades of society.

For a large class of *athleta*, whose pleasure is their business, if not their duty, one of the most prominent attractions and distinguishing recreations of winter, the brave exercise of skating, has almost passed away, and threatens to become altogether obsolete from the mere want of a suitable field for its indulgence. "Canst thou bind the sweet influences of the Pleiades, or loosen

the bands of Orion; canst thou bring forth Mazzaroth in his season, or canst thou guide Arcturus with his sons?" was the rejoinder, in the morning of the world, to a murmuring spirit like our own. No; we can do none of these things, though our lot is cast in a scientific and experimental age such as the world never saw before; when all, from the highest to the lowest, are perpetually on the *qui-vive* for new and remarkable discoveries. It is true we can hold rays of light captive until we have fixed the shadow they have painted; that we can ask questions at one end of the kingdom, and receive answers from the other in the course of a minute; that we can create ice in small quantities for our luxuries, and import it in large ones for our necessities; but we cannot convert the limpid lake into the solid mass at will, or invent any adequate substitute which may render us independent of nature. For the present, therefore, we must be content to watch the hoar frost on our windows, and the decline of our thermometers; invoking what they would seem to foreshadow; but, although the one may make its appearance on the glass for even three days in succession, and the other descend below freezing point, it is but rarely that these prognostications fulfil their frigid promises, or remain long enough to ensure a field of smooth, strong ice, gradually formed, with a bracing atmosphere and clear sky above it.

But when a season of bright keen frost does set in, it is doubtful whether May itself receives a more sincere and joyous welcome. Skates long thrown aside, and half forgotten, are sought for, and brought to light; scenes of anticipated triumphs are repeatedly visited, and their progress towards perfection reported upon. Parties of enterprising pioneers are made up, whilst the less adventurous are content to follow in their wake, and profit by the experience of the few. The good tidings that the ice on St. James's water or on the Serpentine is strong enough to bear (its safety is another matter) circulates far and wide, and the scene becomes ere long as animated as any that London has to display. Groups of warmly-clad ladies and children are gradually drawn to the scene of action

to watch the sport; and by their presence and encouragement to add gaiety to the scene. The less confident aspirants are encouraged to essay a venture for the sake of the bright eyes that look on; and the heroes of the day redouble their exertions to astonish and gratify the spectators, by vigorous efforts and intrepid feats of skill. Some few are to be seen, so well instructed by art, or gifted by nature, as to tread the slippery floor with as much decision and grace as would be exhibited by the most finished dancer in a drawing-room, and would half inspire the belief that they had never trodden rougher ground in their lives, or had been shod otherwise than with the narrow strip of steel which now supports them. Skating has one advantage over many other amusements, that it is free alike to the rich and poor. It provides no Royal road to excellence but practice and agility; neighbour cannot help neighbour; or friend, friend; though frequent opportunities occur when they may impede or embarrass each other. All are indebted to their own prowess for success, and the palm of victory is as open to the ambition of the wearer of the frizz coat as of the velvet donnet.

Let us but be favoured with a few successive days of frost like those which the winters of 1841 and 47 afforded, and the parks of London would present almost as gay an appearance as a continental scene under similar circumstances. Lines of carriages, all bound to the nearest rendezvous, conveying gay groups of fur-clad ladies—hastening to witness the triumph or discomfiture of their admirers, and record the skating triumphs of the “club”—contribute to the general animation. The bare, spectral trees looking old and worn, as though they could never put on green leaves again; with the broad, copper-coloured sun shining down through the frigid atmosphere; every sound of life striking distinctly on the ear, yet seeming in the utterance to have a strange cadence of its own; what a contrast is now presented to the same scene as it appeared but a few months before. Now, friend meets friend; but it is too cold to stand and chat, all must keep moving; the poor children, who are among the more spectators, fancy they enjoy what they see others enjoying; but, in reality, would much rather be at home. Many individuals of that large class who earn their living casually, by holding horses in the streets, or links at parties, by fetching carriages at the Opera, &c., and who are always to be found in places of public resort, here present themselves with offers of the appliances of the sport on hire. Their stock in trade is a rush-bottomed chair, a gilet, and a dozen pairs of skates that have seen good service and slept a long sleep since the last frosty winter, and which now make their appearance with a character of the best London manufacturer stamped upon them. They are certainly somewhat higher, and a trifle longer in the bow than would be approved by the modern skater; but who, that has a grain of benevolence in his composition, would, by any critical remark, prevent leisure and competence from thus, at small cost and little sacrifice, providing enterprise and necessity with a good dinner on a cold day?

But, if practical forethought furnishes means for the enjoyment of a few hours' impromptu recreation on the ice, active benevolence, with far-seeing eye, has generously prepared for any accidents and misadventures which may be consequent upon it. It is rather doubtful whether the tent with Royal Humane Society emblazoned on its roof, and the remembrance of the warm blankets, hot baths, and other comfortable appliances always ready within, do not act rather as stimulants to the rash to seek danger than as warnings to them to avoid it. There is something not unflattering in the idea of being ourselves the objects of so much care and concern, to say nothing of the chance of becoming the object of solicitude to the more gentle portion of the spectators; all of which may be attained at the certain cost of a plunge in cold water, and the possible one of loss of mere life, as the price of the distinction. Boards presenting cautionary warnings against unsound ice are carelessly read and as carelessly passed by, for all are intent on the pleasure before them. Here a young gentleman making, as we should imagine, his first essay in the art, is scrambling about, and trying to discover where the edge of his skate may be. In vain does his instructor advise him to keep his ankle firm and feet nearer together (good counsel, if it were only as easy to practise as to prescribe it); to straighten the knee, though without any jerk; not to look at his feet, but to keep his head erect, and see where he is going. Alas! yes, he sees but too well where he is going; to upset the lady and child who are talking to a military gentleman, not much in the habit, if we may judge from appearances, of parading any familiarity, however unintentional. Happily the shock is expended on those better able and disposed to resist it, and the fall which abruptly terminates the erratic course of the *débutant* is surely a sufficient expiation of his awkwardness; setting aside the gibes of the spectators which make his face tingle far more than the cold had previously done. There, a gentleman is practising the Dutch travelling roll on the outside edge forward; and another the more complicated figure of eight. How admirably was the crossing of the leg managed to press hard on the outside of the right skate, from which he strikes; the double circle which he has traced is perfect, as though drawn by a steady hand on the sparkling ice, and gives proof that, strictly speaking, geometrical talent is not confined to the head alone. Another exhibitor, even more ambitious and experienced, who wears at his button-hole the miniature silver skate which forms the distinguishing badge of the skating club, thinking, no doubt, that classics are as likely to find favour in the eyes of fair ladies as mathematics, resolves, in default of a better representative, to enact Mercury himself. He throws off the cloak—which, by the way, no skater has a right to wear—and with an air of nonchalance, perhaps a little affected, commences his essay. It is merely the outside and inside forward succeeding each other, alternately on the same feet, by which means he describes a serpentine line, skated with force and rapidity, and as exact in its undulations as though the distances to be kept had been measured. When the run is completed, our adventurer becomes quiescent: with his right

arm advanced and raised, his face turned over the right shoulder, and his left foot raised from the ice at a short distance behind the other, he stands as veritable a Mercury as mere mortal body of flesh and blood can personify. “Beautiful!” “Very good, indeed!” is heard from the assembled bystanders, who, having no characters as critics to lose, do not hesitate to say what they think, and by applauding this bold stroke so skilfully executed, fully reward the young aspirant. This stout gentleman, more gifted by nature with weight than grace, is extremely anxious to achieve some difficulties, though, happily for his peace of mind, careless about lightness and elegance. Many are the attempts made by him to perfect the double three both backwards and forwards, but he can accomplish them only on a small scale; and who could be content to register his prowess on the ice in figures two feet long. As a musician, puzzled by a difficult passage, runs his fingers over the notes for a *divertissement*, so he occasionally relieves his mind by a simple run, and returns to his complicated evolutions with fresh spirit. The elements of successful skating are few enough; and yet how endlessly they may be varied. Even waltzes and quadrilles are occasionally attempted, and would be more frequently satisfactorily accomplished if each individual could confine himself strictly to his own part and space; but skates and good spirits are not always to be reined in at will. The fair group who so greatly delighted the public by the *pas des Pâtineurs*, in the opera of “Le Prophète,” did not find it always easy to maintain a perfect mastery of their “wheeled” feet, when the spirit of the exercise had cast its exhilarating spell over them.

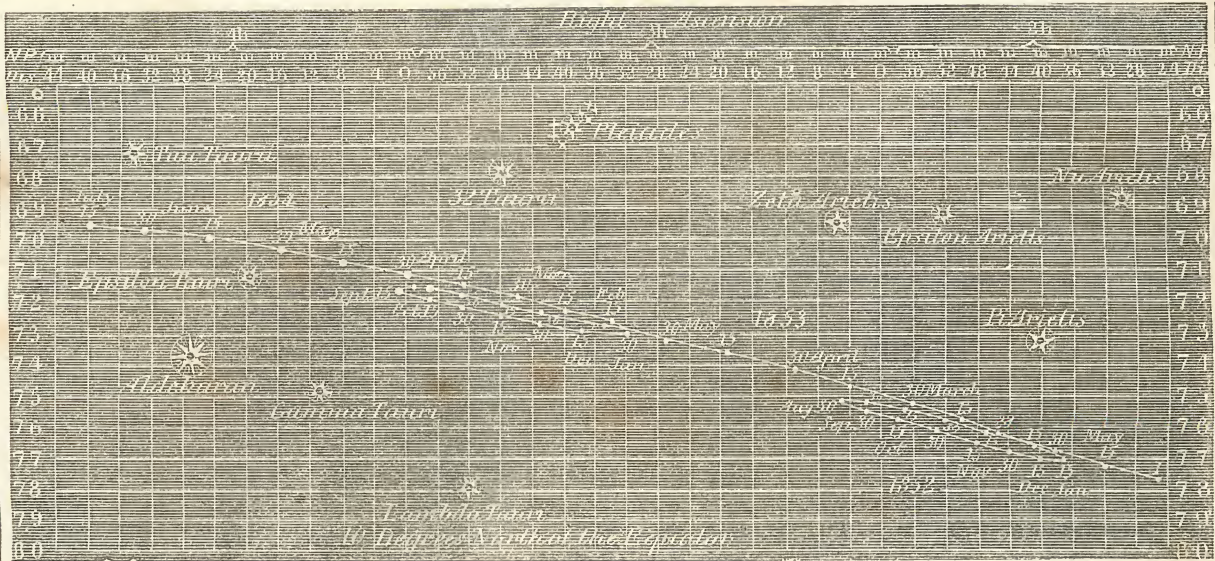
As the sport begins to slacken, groups of ambulatory pastry-cooks contrive to insinuate themselves among the animated actors on the ice, as well as the stationary spectators on its borders. Cakes and comfits are alike pressed upon the hero glowing with exercise, and the heroine who has only her enthusiasm to keep her warm; but who could eat frozen pastry on a cold day in January? Chattering teeth offer audible evidence of the chilling ideas summoned up by its very appearance; and, at such a crisis, it not infrequently happens that a rival or associate *confisseur* is at hand to recommend with a rather deprecatory air certain condiments of sugar in the form of fruit, which will prove, upon inquiry, to contain something quite as delicate, though rather more potent than its saccharine crust. As the day glooms, the majority of the assemblage prepare to depart; but the numbers seem scarcely lessened when horses and carriages have borne away hundreds, for another and another detachment succeeds, consisting of those less fortunate individuals, who can but steal from their business a brief hour before sunset for the sport. Twilight itself has come to an end before the most enthusiastic can persuade themselves to depart. The Park-keeper and policemen talk of peremptory orders that must be attended to. The Humane Society's men have for once had a sinecure on the first day of the season: may every succeeding skating day be to them equally uneventful!

We must all confess, however, that the most animated and inspiring scene of out-door winter amusement, to which a period of stability in our own capricious climate may have given rise, appears positively insignificant when we think of the prominent and universal enjoyments which form no very inadequate compensation to the inhabitants of colder countries for the rigour of their winter season. Frost and snow attack them, indeed, with an earnestness of which we have no idea; but no sooner do they set in, or rather, no sooner are the least tokens of their approach perceptible, than the attention of every one is devoted to precautionary measures for their better endurance, and to preparations for turning them to pleasurable account. When the highways are, by order of the authorities, cleared sufficiently to admit of their progress, sledges of every form and character once more see the light, and mingle in strange contrast. The bodies of chariots, barouches, phaetons, &c., placed on the curved sledge-bars, which unite in front for the support of some ornamental figure, when gaily painted, tastefully adorned, and plentifully furnished with furs and skins, form both picturesque and luxurious conveyances for the classes favoured by fortune; whilst rude, simply-constructed machines, of their own contrivance, minister to the necessities and pleasures of the poor. Schemes for sledging parties are busily organised, and every detail, trivial or important, which may tend to increase their splendour, is decided long before hand. If, when the appointed time arrives, all things wear a propitious aspect, it is not difficult to picture the exhilarating enjoyment which is derived from the exercise. The procession of sledges, each drawn by each spirited horses, varying in number according to the ambition of the owner, and each containing a lady and gentleman, with perhaps a servant in case of exigency, proves an attractive sight, as preceded by outriders, it passes through the most crowded thoroughfares of continental towns; a ceremony, by the way, which is not omitted even when the route proposed would render it wholly unnecessary, for the purpose of reaching the country. Then, when all obstacles and hindrances to progress are left behind them, they dash gaily onwards through the smooth track of snow; feeling, too joyous in spirit to be chilled by the sublime desolation of winter around them. They drive to some place of attraction at a convenient distance, where they spend a few hours of the short day, and return very frequently after dark, either lighted by torches, or guided by the sure instinct of their horses.

Merry dash they o'er valley and hill;
All but the sleigh-bell is sleeping and still:
Oh! h'ess the sleigh-bell, there's nought can compare
To its loud merry tones, as they break on the ear.

Their horses are stanch, and they dash o'er the snow;
The bells ring out gaily the faster they go:
The night breezes sigh with an answering swell
To the melody rude of the merry sleigh-bell.

JANUARY.



10° goes north of the Equator.—Scale, 6° degrees to one inch.
THE PATH OF SATURN FROM MAY 1, 1852, TO JULY 15, 1854.

THE SUN is situated south of the Equator, or has south declination, and is in the sign Capricornus (the Goat) till the 20th, having been in that sign 29 days 10 hours 35 minutes. On this day, at 1h. 48m. A.M., he enters the sign Aquarius (the Water-bearer). His distance from the Earth in miles on the 1st, is 93,404,000, increasing to 93,629,700 by the last day. He rises on the 1st, at 3^h 3^m S. of the S.E. by E. point of the horizon, and day by day at points more nearly E., till, at about the middle of the month, he appears at the S.E. by E.; and towards the end of the month, nearly midway between the E.S.E. and S.E. by E. points of the horizon. He sets at the corresponding points in the west horizon, at about the same times of the month. The times of his rising, southing, and setting, in ordinary clock time, together with his angular measure above the horizon when at his greatest altitude, are given daily in the calendar pages.

THE MOON is the constellation Virgo till the 4th, on which day she passes into Libra; on the 6th she enters Scorpio, passing from thence into Ophiuchus on the same day; on the 8th, Sagittarius; on the 10th, Capricornus; on the 12th, Aquarius; on the 13th, Pisces; on the 14th, Cetus; where she remains until the 16th, when she again enters Pisces; on the 18th, re-enters Cetus; and, skirting the boundaries of Cetus and Aries, on the 19th, enters into Taurus; from thence, on the 22d, into Gemini; on the 24th, Cancer; on the 25th, Leo; in which constellation she remains until the 28th, when she enters Virgo; and on the 31st, Libra.

She is above the horizon when the Sun is below, during the morning hours till the 5th, and after the 19th; and during the night hours from the 12th to the 27th.

She is situated a few degrees north of the Equator on the 1st; crosses the Equator, going south on the evening of the 2d; is at her extreme south declination about midnight on the 8th; crosses the Equator, going northward, on the 15th; is at her extreme north declination on the morning of the 23d; crosses the Equator about midnight, on the 29th; and is about 10° south of the Equator on the last day.

She is near Jupiter, Venus, and Mercury, on the 7th; Mars, on the 9th; Uranus, on the 17th; and Saturn, on the 18th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Ophiuchus till the 13th; and in that of Sagittarius till the end of the month. He sets before the Sun throughout the month;

and therefore is not visible during the evenings. He rises on the 1st, at 6h. 23m.; on the 5th, at 6h. 18m.; on the 10th, at 6h. 23m.; on the 15th, at 6h. 32m.; on the 20th, at 6h. 42m.; on the 25th, at 6h. 53m.; and on the 31st, at 7h. 4m. These times precede those of the Sun by 1h. 45m., on the 1st; increasing to 1h. 50m. on the 5th. This interval decreases from the 7th, to 1h. 43m. on the 10th, to 1h. 30m. on the 15th, to 1h. 15m. on the 20th, to 0h. 58m. on the 25th, and to 0h. 39m. on the 31st. This planet is therefore very favourably situated for observation during the greater part of the month; the point of the horizon at which he rises is near the S.E. by E. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 7th, at his greatest western elongation on the 10th, and in apheion on the 31st. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in March.

VENUS is in the constellation Ophiuchus till the 18th, and in Sagittarius to the end of the month. She is a morning star; rising on the 1st at 5h. 32m., on the 10th at 5h. 54m., on the 20th at 6h. 13m., and on the 1st day at 6h. 28m.; near the S.E. by E. point of the horizon. She is moving eastward among the stars; is near Antares on the 1st, Jupiter and Mercury on the 4th, and the Moon on the 7th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in February.

MARS is in the constellation Sagittarius till the 15th, and in Capricornus to the end of the month. He is badly situated for observation, rising and setting nearly with the Sun. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 9th, and in conjunction with the Sun on the 26th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in April.

JUPITER is in the constellation Ophiuchus till the 9th, in that of Scorpio from the 10th to the 21st, and in Ophiuchus again from the 22d. He is a morning star, and rises on the 1st, at 5h. 53m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 5h. 14m. A.M.; and on the last day, at 4h. 25m. A.M.; near the S.E. by E. point of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 7th. He souths at an altitude of 16° 51' on the 1st, decreasing to 16° 11' by the last day. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in September.

SATURN is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He is an even-

(Continued on page 52.)

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.						JUPITER'S SATELLITES.				OCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.					
	Mercury.	Venus.	Mars.	Jupiter.	Saturn.	Uranus.	Eclipses of				Names of the Stars.	Magni- tude.	Times of disappear- ance & re-appear- ance of the Stars.	At which limb of the Moon.	Between what Latitudes visible.	
	Morning.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Afternoon.	1st Satellite.	2nd Satellite.	3rd Satellite.	4th Satellite.						
1	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	Disappear.	Disappear.			c Virginis	5	D. H. M.	2 1 5 A. M.	Bright	50° N. & 30° S.
6	10 36	9 45	0 30	9 58	7 52	7 25	15 5 14 A. M.	19 7 26 A. M.			30 Piscium	4	14 4 24 P. M.	Dark	75° N. & 10° S.	
11	10 27	9 52	0 27	9 43	7 32	7 5	22 7 8 A. M.		3d Satellite.	4 7 11 A. M.	33 Piscium	5	14 5 5 P. M.	Bright	86° N. & 5° S.	
16	10 27	9 59	0 24	9 28	7 13	6 45					Omicron Tauri	5	14 6 19 P. M.	Dark	North of 11°	
21	10 32	10 6	0 21	9 12	6 53	6 25							14 7 31 P. M.	Bright		
26	10 40	10 13	0 18	8 57	6 34	6 6							21 3 29 P. M.	Dark		
31	10 51	10 20	0 14	8 41	6 14	5 46	8 6 14 A. M. R.	2nd Satellite					21 4 19 P. M.	Bright		
31	11 3	10 17	0 11	8 25	5 55	5 27	31 6 42 A. M. R.	5 6 15 A. M. R.								

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON, And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee) or at her least distance (Perigee), from the Earth in each Lunation.																
LAST QUARTER	21.	9h.	54m.	P. M.	1	17h. 21m	110° 23'	16h. 34m	110° 33'	19h. 15m	113° 20'	15h. 43m	111° 40'	2h. 38m	77° 7'	2h 10m
NEW MOON	9	3	53	P. M.	6	17 34	111 14	17 1	111 30	19 31	112 49	16 47	111 48	2 38	77 7	2h 23
FIRST QUARTER	17	5	29	A. M.	11	17 55	112 9	17 27	112 13	19 48	112 11	16 52	111 56	2 37	77 6	2 10
FULL MOON	25	5	43	A. M.	16	18 20	112 50	17 54	112 39	20 4	111 29	16 56	112 3	2 37	77 4	2 10
PERIGEE	6	6	0	P. M.	21	18 49	113 8	18 21	112 43	20 21	110 35	17 9	112 9	2 38	77 2	2 10
APOGEE	18		At Noon.		26	19 20	112 59	18 43	112 40	20 37	109 40	17 4	112 14	2 38	76 58	2 10
					31	19 52	112 18	19 15	112 15	20 56	108 26	17 8	112 19	2 39	76 54	2 10

RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS WHEN PASSING THE MERIDIAN.											
MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.	
Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.
17h. 21m	110° 23'	16h. 34m	110° 33'	19h. 15m	113° 20'	15h. 43m	111° 40'	2h. 38m	77° 7'	2h 10m	77° 23'
17 34	111 14	17 1	111 30	19 31	112 49	16 47	111 48	2 38	77 7	2 10	77 23
17 55	112 9	17 27	112 13	19 48	112 11	16 52	111 56	2 37	77 6	2 10	77 24
18 20	112 50	17 54	112 39	20 4	111 29	16 56	112 3	2 37	77 4	2 10	77 23
18 49	113 8	18 21	112 43	20 21	110 35	17 9	112 9	2 38	77 2	2 10	77 23
19 20	112 59	18 43	112 40	20 37	109 40	17 4	112 14	2 38	76 58	2 10	77 21
19 52	112 18	19 15	112 15	20 56	108 26	17 8	112 19	2 39	76 54	2 10	77 20

FEBRUARY

Day of Month	Day of Week	ANNIVERSARIES, OCCURRENCES, FESTIVALS, &c.	SUN.					MOON.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.												HIGH WATER.				Day of the Year.	
			SOUTH.					SOUTH.					Before Sunrise.						After Sunset.						AT LONDON BRIDGE.					
			Rises.	After 12 o'Clock.	Height at horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Morning.	Height at horizon.	Sets.	Morning.	Height at horizon.	Sets.	Morning.	0	2	4	6	8	Moons Age.	4	6	8	10	12	Morning.	Afternoon.			
h.	m.	m.	s.	Deg.	h.	m.	h.	m.	h.	m.	Deg.	h.	m.	0	2	4	6	8	Moons Age.	4	6	8	10	12	h.	m.	h.	m.		
1	Tu	Ph. & Par. sh. ends	7	41	13	56	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	47	0	47	5	59	25 $\frac{3}{4}$	10	59										7	0	7	24	32
2	W	Purifi. Cand. day	7	40	14	4	21 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	49	2	9	6	52	20 $\frac{3}{4}$	11	25										7	50	8	22	33
3	Th	Blaise	7	38	14	10	22	4	50	3	31	7	58	17	11	57										8	0	9	40	34
4	F	Length of night 14h 44m	7	36	14	16	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	52	4	49	8	47	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	Afternoon											10	15	11	0	35
5	S	Agatha [SUN.]	7	34	14	21	22 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	54	5	57	9	46	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	1	35										11	40	No Tide.		36
6	S	QUIN. or SHROVE	7	32	14	25	23	4	56	6	53	10	45	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	41										0	15	0	50	37
7	M	Mercury in conjunction with the Moon at 2h 19m A.M.	7	30	14	29	23 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	58	7	34	11	41	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	55										1	20	1	45	38
8	Tu	Sh. Tu. Half-Qu. D	7	29	14	31	23 $\frac{5}{2}$	5	0	8	6	Afternoon	20	5	31											2	10	2	35	39
9	W	Ash Wed. Lent b.	7	27	14	33	24	5	2	8	31	1	24	24 $\frac{1}{4}$	6	26										2	55	3	15	40
10	Th	Qu. Vict. m. 1840	7	26	14	34	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	4	8	50	2	10	29	7	43										3	35	3	55	41
11	F	Length of day 9h 41m	7	24	14	34	24 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	5	9	6	2	54	34 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	52										4	10	4	30	42
12	S	Sirius souths 9h 5m P.M.	7	22	14	33	25	5	7	9	25	3	36	39 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	1										4	45	5	5	43
13	S	1ST S. in LENT.	7	20	14	32	25 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	9	9	41	4	17	44 $\frac{3}{4}$	11	8										5	20	5	35	44
14	M	St. Val. O. C. D.	7	18	14	29	25 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	11	9	57	4	59	49 $\frac{1}{2}$	Morning.											5	55	6	10	45
15	Tu	[Camb. T. div.]	7	16	14	26	26	5	13	10	16	5	42	53 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	15										6	25	6	45	46
16	W	Ember Week	7	14	14	23	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	14	10	29	6	27	57 $\frac{1}{4}$	1	23										7	5	7	25	47
17	Th	Alpha Arctis due south at 4h 5m P.M.	7	12	14	18	26 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	16	11	7	7	14	60	2	30										7	50	8	20	48
18	F	Aldebaran S. at 6h 33m P.M.	7	10	14	13	27	5	18	11	41	8	5	61 $\frac{3}{4}$	3	34										8	55	9	35	49
19	S	Mercury in conjunction with Mars at 11h 10m A.M.	7	8	14	7	27 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	20	Afternoon	8	57	62 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	34											10	15	10	55	50
20	S	2ND S. in LENT	7	7	14	1	27 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	21	1	21	9	51	61 $\frac{3}{4}$	5	29										11	35	No Tide.		51
21	M	Rigel souths 7h 1m P.M.	7	5	13	54	28	5	23	2	27	10	45	59 $\frac{1}{4}$	6	14										0	15	0	45	52
22	Tu	Beta Tauri S. at 7h 7m P.M.	7	3	13	46	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	25	3	42	11	39	55 $\frac{3}{4}$	6	50										1	10	1	30	53
23	W	Capella due S. at 6h 52m P.M.	7	1	13	37	28 $\frac{3}{4}$	5	27	5	3	Morning.		7	19											1	55	2	15	54
24	Th	St. Matthias	6	59	13	28	29	5	29	6	26	0	31	51	7	42										2	35	2	55	55
25	F	Procyon due S. at 9h 9m P.M.	6	56	13	19	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	30	7	48	1	23	45 $\frac{1}{4}$	8	3										3	15	3	30	56
26	S	Mercury in sup. conjunction with Sun at 9h 33m A.M.	6	54	13	8	29 $\frac{3}{4}$	5	32	9	11	2	13	39 $\frac{1}{4}$	8	22										3	50	4	10	57
27	S	3RD S. in LENT	6	52	12	58	30 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	34	10	35	3	4	33	8	41										4	30	4	50	58
28	M	Day increased 3h 0m	6	50	12	46	30 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	36	11	59	3	55	27	9	2										5	10	5	30	59





THE EVENING PARTY.

LAS for human happiness that human enjoyments must, sooner or later, come to an end. We cannot devote all the year to mince-pies and pantomimes; there is a Black Monday for us all; and the arrival of February warns us that this melancholy period is fast approaching. The holidays of the winter season are over; the refreshing family *réunions* of Christmas are long past; the surprises of the "tree" are by this time quite forgotten; New Year's Day and Twelfth Night have been enjoyed; and the children have returned to school.

The only festival that remains to us is that of St. Valentine; the pleasures of which, be it said, with all respect, are of a limited and exclusive, rather than of a social character. Something must be done. We have become too habituated to holidays, to be able to give them up at once; so indemnify ourselves for the two dull

months which are before us, ere we can hope for spring thoughts or spring pleasures, by a short supplementary season of evening parties; which, retaining somewhat of the joyous character of Christmas time, are often among the most agreeable of the year. In the country, indeed, which promises more congenial enjoyments for the summer, this is the height of the orthodox season. February is there the month usually selected for the recurrence of those grand annual festive gatherings which are among not the least important features of rural life. Let us bid adieu for a night to London, Mr. Blagrove and Madame Jullien, and wend our way to some promising field for observation in the vicinity of a flourishing country town, possessing what is popularly called "a neighbourhood;" not so far from the great city as to be too unsophisticated, or so near to it as to have lost, in the manners and customs of the

metropolis, its own peculiar characteristics. General descriptions, it must be acknowledged, are often as unsatisfactory as general invitations; we will, therefore, Asmodeus-like, introduce ourselves quietly into some mansion in a locality which possesses all the requisite attributes, and in which various circumstances, unimportant in themselves, but eloquent to the initiated, combine to satisfy us that an evening party is at hand. I have in my mind's eye the very house. It is a substantial, thriving looking residence, not without a claim to antiquity; for, though surrounded by no park, and approached by no avenue, it can boast a lawn smooth as velvet, and a cedar worthy of overshadowing the oldest ruin in the land. It seems to form a link between the "cottage of gentility" and the lodge-bounded demesne of the county family; and its owners probably occupy a similar position in the grade of society. That they are not behind the improving spirit of the age, we may infer from the additions, evidently recent, of a handsome portico and well-designed conservatory. Within this abode all has been bustle and commotion from an early hour in the morning, and each one of its denizens is earnestly occupied in the accomplishment of his or her allotted duties. The only exception to the rule, perhaps, is the worthy head of the family, who, having found himself in the way wherever he went, has wisely improvised an engagement to look at an eligible piece of land which will shortly be on sale on a neighbouring estate. As the groom, "for this occasion only" transformed into a Mercury, is absent on some mission, of vital importance, to the nearest town, his master uncomplainingly saddles his own horse and quietly departs, promising to return in time to get cool and collected before his share of the duties of the day are in demand. Mamma, who may have been a thrifty well-trained clergyman's daughter, knowing that where a perfect *ensemble* is desired, the minor details must not be deemed unworthy of attention, has adjourned to fashion with her own experienced hands the turretted lobster castle which is to form so distinguished an ornament to her supper-table; and to superintend this anxious process of turning out of the more elaborate designs in cream and

jelly. Everything except the ice is to be home-made, yet good and elegant; and in the hands of so experienced a manager it is more than probable that the absence of confectioners' shops in the neighbourhood may be rather an advantage than otherwise. We can only judge from external appearances; but when, all preliminaries being completed, the tables are at length covered and arranged, we must confess that the *coup d'œil* is decidedly satisfactory. The absence of barley-sugar temples tempting no one to desecrate them; of miniature banners displaying the word "contract" as distinctly as though it were emblazoned upon them, and of similar artificial decorations, is advantageously supplied by a profusion of beautiful flowers and hot-house ferns, the very sight of which would to a London eye be a luxury in itself. After many journeys of observation and reform to the various points of view, the critical eye of the lady is at length satisfied; she acknowledges to herself that all former efforts have been surpassed, and having received from the family assembled in conclave a vote of approval and admiration, dismisses from her mind all anxiety as to the result.

During this interval, an equally busy and far more noisy scene is enacting in the spacious drawingroom. Three blooming, though it must be confessed rather disordered Graces, daughters of the house, are here to be found with the dear friends who have been admitted to a special share in those pleasures of preparation which will so much enhance the enjoyment of the evening. Some are occupied in adorning with evergreens every nook and corner, convenient or inconvenient, for the purpose. The rest are eagerly carrying into execution a brilliant idea with which one of the party has suddenly been inspired. It is neither more nor less than the transformation into an elegant boudoir of an adjoining sanctum belonging to the eldest brother, who, after a good-natured protest, lounges idly by to witness the dislodgment of his lares and penates: fishing-rods and foils, mantons and meercchaums, are ignominiously expelled to remote hiding-places: may they be forthcoming when they are wanted! The moreen curtains which have been considered "good enough for Charles," are being replaced by lace ones; an elegant couch and various odd-shaped, fashionable-looking ottomans, which have been necessarily expelled from the drawingroom, are in course of substitution for his horse-hair chairs and sofa; and a chess-table, print-stand, and other trifles having been introduced, the effect is pronounced perfect. It would really be difficult to believe that those walls could ever have witnessed the lighting of a cigar, or the *entrée* of canine favourites more destructive to order than a sister's pet Blenheim.

These pleasant labours are at length abridged by the hasty early dinner, a kind of in-door pic-nic, with its usual scarcity of plate and attendants, which is, nevertheless, most cheerfully endured. Then follows the arrangement of the liberal contributions of owners which pour in during the day from friends and neighbours, and by the time six bouquets are achieved—no light task of itself—and innumerable vases filled, the gloom of a February evening has insensibly closed around them. At this opportune moment, a loud ring at the door bell announces the arrival by the afternoon train of the second brother from London, where he is studying for the bar. He is accompanied by some half-dozen select friends, whose good looks, good manners, and good dancing, are to give especial *clat* to the entertainment. The house party, unmindful of their *déshabille*, hasten to receive and welcome the new-comers, who are speedily regaled with a substantial tea in the nursery, which is found to be the only room available for the purpose. During the hour thus devoted to the revival of their exhausted energies, a rapid approach to acquaintanceship is made by those of the circle who now meet for the first time, whilst former friendships are vigorously reviving. In due time the party separate to commence the duties of the toilet, each resolving, no doubt, to appear to the best advantage, and not indisposed to outshine his or her neighbour, though, of course, quite in a friendly way.

By-and-by, a strong odour of coffee diffuses itself throughout the house, and a general illumination takes place. After a somewhat protracted period of silence, the dressing-room doors open one by one, and the whole party is again re-assembled around the drawingroom fire. Marvellous, indeed, is the improvement effected in their appearance by the occupations of the last two hours: each might have been touched, like Cinderella, with the wand of a fairy godmother. The Graces aforesaid, in their fresh white dresses, relieved by crimson camellias, would not have been easily recognised as the trio of the morning, and do not look a whit less mischievous for the simplicity of attire on which mamma always insists in their own home. The travellers not unwilling, probably, to dissociate from themselves any unsatisfactory impressions which might have been derived from the rough coats and shooting boots in which they had made their *entrée*, have achieved a toilet more than usually *soignée*, and feel with complacency that the honour of the metropolis will suffer no discredit in their persons. The little interval of leisure which precedes the arduous duties of reception is, we observe, variously employed. Some are gossiping about the expected guests, others already contracting and registering engagements. Here a couple are testing the floor in a *walse*, and there Charles is undergoing a lecture on the impropriety of devoting himself too exclusively to the beauties of the evening, to the prejudice of the claims of their elder sisters. The culprit only laughs, and will by no means promise amendment; but his mistress is consoled by the chivalry of the London phalanx, who entreat—sincerely, it is to be hoped—that they may be made useful in any way, even to the extent of dancing with married ladies, old maids, school girls, or dowdies in general.

The first grating of carriage-wheels is at length heard on the gravel, the whole party involuntarily draw themselves up, mentally and physically, for the reception of the new comers; who do not, however, make their appearance for some time. They are, no doubt, lingering over the glass till shame shall compel them to quit it, and taking coffee to the full extent of human ability, in the vain

hope of sharing with other visitors their undesired pre-eminence in the virtue of punctuality. But all is in vain, the servant is waiting to announce them, and they have no alternative but to enter upon the scene, which they do with a frank, cordial air, intended to imply that they have come early to enjoy as much as possible of their friends' society, and not by any means because the carriage has to return for the convenience of a second detachment of the family. A conversation arises on the state of the roads, the maturity of the moon—no unimportant element in our country entertainments—and a recent party in the neighbourhood, until fresh arrivals occur to create a diversion. Group after group enters the room, some boldly, some deprecatingly; but each bearing, to the eye of a casual observer, a general likeness to the other. Occasionally, however, our attention is arrested by one which is not without some decided characteristics of its town. Here, for instance, we observe a proud father and mother with the young daughter, who has evidently been permitted to anticipate her legitimate *début* on this occasion, and looks not quite at ease in her new dress. There, is a couple whom the slight nervousness of the gentleman taken in connexion with the white *moiré* of the lady, proclaim to be bride and bridegroom, and by virtue of their newly-acquired dignity, the hero and heroine of the night. The lady will be duly escorted in all honour to the Dowagers' *daïs*, whence, I suspect, she will take the earliest opportunity of effecting her escape. Here, again, is a young clergyman of High Church views, who has come on account of "his sister;" he looks rather guilty, but his scruples will probably not interfere with his ultimate enjoyment of the evening's pleasure. At length the arrival of the family of the county member, with such guests as may be enjoying their hospitality, proclaims that the business of the evening must commence in earnest. The only obstacle is unfortunately rather an important one, the non-arrival of the musicians, concerning whom distressing surmises occupy the mind of the hostess. Have they proved faithless, and broken their long-standing engagement with herself in favour of opposition festivities somewhere else; or have they been waylaid or upset in their transit from the distant town? Either suggestion seems equally alarming; for notwithstanding our friend's well-known benevolence, it is to be feared that her anxious thoughts are now directed to them in their abstract capacities of harp and cornet, rather than as mere human beings. Every one is on the *qui vive*, and something must be done; so the second daughter, who has a musical reputation to sustain, plays a lively polka with great energy and effect. The ice is broken. The countenances of all, save those who have no partners, light up perceptibly, and matters generally begin to brighten. During the progress of the dance, the delinquent harmonists present themselves, and take advantage of the confusion to glide quietly into their accustomed corner; the mind of the hostess is relieved and "all goes merry as a marriage bell." The ladies seem resolved to honour the occasion with their best smiles as well as dresses, the gentlemen, upon the whole with their most attentive manners and active exertions. Some few, it is true, are at first a little bashful, and content themselves with standing in the hall and casting envious glances through the open door at the progress made by their more adventurous brethren, but fortunately the friends from London are a host in themselves, and are prepared to do duty for the defaulters, were they twice as numerous.

The impromptu boudoir is most successful, and many a young couple bless it, tempting seclusion. They stroll in perhaps, after a dance, for rest, and a little quiet, sensible conversation over the print stand; and in due time yield their place to others, for the sense too often becomes sentiment, and when that happens, the attractions of the boudoir yield to those of the conservatory. Many a little episode—now touching, now amusing—will those orange trees and Chinese lanterns witness in the course of this eventful evening: but we must be as discreet as they are. Meanwhile, dance has succeeded dance, and the hours have sped so rapidly that the young people (we will not answer for the *chaperons*) are quite astonished when the arrival of twelve o'clock is announced by a movement of the seniors to the supper table. The first proceedings of the matrons of the conclave, who are probably meditating similar hospitalities, is to look round in quest of ideas and novelties, and this duty performed they betake themselves to practical experiments on the good cheer before them. After a reasonable time, the hostess gives a signal for departure, being not unmindful of the necessities of her younger friends, who, headed by one or two famished and adventurous couples, crowd in with great despatch. By a little management, seats are found for all, and the gentlemen attend to the wants of their fair partners with not the less alacrity that they are able at the same time to minister to their own. At length, the secession of some of the more inveterate dancers produces a general return to the drawingroom with greatly-improved capacity for enjoyment. About two o'clock, the member's party take a gracious leave, and their example is followed by the more aristocratic portion of the guests. One could almost fancy that on their departure the hilarity increases, rather than otherwise; certain it is, that for some time the spirit of the evening does not flag in the least. At length, however, farewells become more frequent, and unwilling daughters are ruthlessly carried off, to the despair of prospective partners. The moment arrives when the last lady is handed to her carriage—a seat on the box being secured for the latest of those stray young men who come no one knows how, and always trust to circumstances and charity for their conveyance home—and the hall door closes for the night. A few moments are devoted to mutual congratulations on the unparalleled success of the evening, and after a series of leave-takings, rather impressive, by the way, on the part of the London friends, the ladies retire to sleep or talk, and the gentlemen return to the supper-table to finish the lobster-castle and a fresh bottle of champagne, which papa has liberally ordered as a finale. In half an hour silence reigns throughout the house.



THE PATH OF VENUS FROM JANUARY 1 TO APRIL 15, 1853.

MERCURY is in the constellation Sagittarius till the 3rd, in Capricornus till the 18th, and in Aquarius to the end of the month. He sets before the Sun till the end of the month, and is, therefore, not visible in the evenings. He rises before the Sun till the 18th; at the beginning of the month near the S.E. by E., and to-

SATURN is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He sets on the 1st at 1h. 7m. A.M., on the 15th at 0h. 16m. A.M., and on the last day at 11h. 28m. P.M., near the W.N.W. point of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 14th. He souths at an altitude of $51^{\circ} \frac{1}{2}$.

(Continued on page 52.)

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MARCH

Day of Month	Day of Week	ANNIVERSARIES, OCCURRENCES, FESTIVALS, &c.	SUN.					MOON.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.												HIGH WATER				Day of the Year.
			SOUTH.					SOUTH.					Before Sunrise.						After Sunset.						AT LONDON BRIDGE.				
			Rises.	After 12 o'clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.		Rises.	Morning.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Morning.	O'Clock.	2	3	4	5	6	O'Clock.	7	8	9	10	12	Morning.	Afternoon			
1	Tu	St. David	6 48	12 35	31	5 38																				5 50	6 10	60	
2	W	St. Chad	6 46	12 22	31	5 39	1 20	5 43	17	9 57																6 35	6 55	61	
3	Th	Jupiter in conjunction with the Moon at 7h 26m A.M.	6 44	12 9	31	5 41	2 40	6 41	14	10 37																7 25	7 55	62	
4	F	Capella due S. at 6h 16m P.M.	6 42	11 56	32	5 43	3 50	7 39	13	11 27																8 30	9 15	63	
5	S	Length of night 12h 56m	6 40	11 43	32	5 44	4 48	8 37	13	Afternoon																10 0	10 50	64	
6	S	4TH S. in LENT.	6 38	11 48	33	5 46	5 34	9 34	15	1 40																11 35	No Tide.	65	
7	M	[MID-LENT S.	6 36	11 14	33	5 48	6 7	10 27	18	2 54																0 15	0 45	66	
8	Tu	O. St. Matthias	6 33	10 59	33	5 50	6 35	11 17	22	4 9																1 15	1 40	67	
9	W	Venus in Aphelion at 10h 56m P.M.	6 31	10 44	34	5 51	6 55	Afternoon	27	5 22																2 0	2 20	68	
10	Th	Mercury in conjunction with the Moon at 3h 46m A.M.	6 28	10 28	34	5 53	7 12	0 48	32	6 34																2 40	3 0	69	
11	F	Length of day 11h 29m	6 26	10 12	34	5 55	7 30	1 30	37	7 45																3 15	3 30	70	
12	S	St. Gregory	6 24	9 56	35	5 57	7 45	2 12	42	8 53																3 45	4 5	71	
13	S	5TH S. in LENT.	6 21	9 40	35	5 59	8 2	2 54	47	10 1																4 18	4 35	72	
14	M	Sirius south at 7h 16m P.M.	6 18	9 23	36	6 0	8 19	3 36	52	11 8																4 50	5 0	73	
15	Tu	Procyon south at 7h 59m P.M.	6 16	9 6	36	6 2	8 39	4 20	56	Morning.																5 20	5 35	74	
16	W	Mercury in Perihelion at 10h 51m A.M.	6 13	8 48	36	6 4	9 5	5 7	59	0 15																5 50	6 5	75	
17	Th	St. Patrick	6 11	8 31	37	6 6	9 35	5 55	61	1 22																6 25	6 45	76	
18	F	Ps. Louisa b. 1848	6 9	8 13	37	6 8	10 16	6 46	62	2 23																7 5	7 30	77	
19	S	Oxf. & Cam. T. end	6 7	7 55	38	6 9	11 5	7 38	62	3 20																8 5	8 45	78	
20	S	6TH S. in LENT.	6 5	7 37	38	6 11	Afternoon	8 32	60	4 7																9 30	10 15	79	
21	M	[PALM SUN.	6 3	7 19	38	6 12	1 16	9 25	57	4 46																11 0	11 40	80	
22	Tu	Night decreased 4h 27m	6 1	7 0	39	6 14	2 34	10 18	53	5 19																No Tide.	0 15	81	
23	W	Mercury greatest E. elong. at 5h 51m P.M.	5 59	6 42	39	6 15	3 56	11 10	48	5 45																0 44	1 5	82	
24	Th	Maunday Thurs.	5 57	6 23	40	6 17	5 20	Morning.		6 4																1 28	1 50	83	
25	F	GOOD FRIDAY.	5 54	6 5	40	6 18	6 43	0 1	42	6 32																2 10	2 30	84	
26	S	[Lady Day	5 52	5 46	40	6 20	8 11	0 53	35	6 45																2 50	3 5	85	
27	S	EASTER SUNDAY	5 50	5 28	41	6 22	9 38	1 45	29	7 6																3 25	3 45	86	
28	M	Easter Monday	5 47	5 9	41	6 24	11 5	2 39	23	7 28																4 5	4 25	87	
29	Tu	Easter Tuesday	5 45	4 50	42	6 26	Morning.	3 36	18	7 58																4 45	5 10	88	
30	W	Jupiter in conjunction with the Moon at 4h 46m P.M.	5 43	4 32	42	6 28	0 28	4 34	15	8 33																5 30	5 50	89	
31	Th	Mercury stationary at 10h 20m A.M.	5 41	4 14	42	6 30	1 44	5 34	13	9 19																6 15	6 40	90	





THE PALM-HOUSE AT KEW.

ALTHOUGH London, with its extensive parks for recreation, when we would behold nature without going far to see it; with its magnificent Museum, when we would make acquaintance with the precious relics of antiquity; the theatres, when we would be amused without thought or care of our own; to say nothing of its public buildings, its scientific institutions, its busy streets, with their many shows both by night

and by day, would seem enough to satisfy in the way of amusement the most exacting demands that could be made upon it; it is yet doubtful whether the two sights which depend on nature alone do not offer more general attraction than all that art and the busy brain of man has devised for our solace and entertainment. The Zoological Gardens, that ark of modern times; and the Royal Gardens at Kew, the emporium of the vegetable

kingdom, offer fields of attraction so wide and various, that the most capricious taste will find something to interest it therein. The rarest specimens of nature, animate and inanimate, are there congregated together, from the four quarters of the globe, to satisfy our curiosity; and few, we think, will be found among us that will not readily admit that for once the reality of enjoyment has exceeded the pleasure of anticipation.

The Gardens of Kew have long been familiar to the minds of the British public as somehow connected with Queen Charlotte and the younger members of the family of George III. The Pagoda, a veritable copy of the one at Nankin, has lifted its time-honoured head in view of a third generation, and served as a landmark to the tourist threading the mazy windings of the Thames. Until late years, however, the Gardens maintained a reputation rather venerable from their antiquity than as possessing any extraordinary

interest of their own. A few ardent lovers of botanical research, chiefly in private stations, became its principal benefactors. By their liberality were the stoves and greenhouses principally furnished or replenished; and thus, whilst enjoying some reputation in virtue of their origin and professed object, they existed to the general public as a sealed book, whose pages were only to be scanned by the learned and initiated.

Within the last ten years, however, a very striking and agreeable change has taken place within their walls. The late King William IV. cherishing pleasant reminiscences of his early youth as connected with them, bestowed a grant of land and a handsome greenhouse upon them. But it was not until the accession of her present Majesty that much has been done towards their substantial renovation. At an early period of her reign the general wishes of the country became known that the Gardens should either be dispensed with altogether, or be maintained on a footing worthy a great nation. This call on Parliament was liberally responded to; the Queen added to the grant conceded by her predecessor; a new infusion of spirit became visible; and a liberal vote of money enabled the director to carry out plans already matured for their benefit. The old and unsightly edifices that had existed for a century gave place to buildings raised with all the skill that modern science has made available in useful and ornamental architecture. Their vegetable stores were enriched by modern discoveries; and finally, we have now within ten miles of London the finest and best-furnished arboretum and botanical garden in the world.

These alterations and improvements, sanctioned by the public, redounded eventually to their own benefit. These stately Gardens are no longer restricted to the enjoyment of any privileged order. A decent appearance and quiet demeanour are the only passports needful. During the summer months, for six hours in the day, its gates are open alike to the rich and the poor: all are free to come and to go without let or hindrance, without fee or reward.

On a spot where so much that is attractive presents itself, it seems rather a

question, on our entrance, which way we should direct our steps; but happily we cannot go far wrong, where every plot of earth has something attractive to exhibit. The most determined sight-seer cannot hope even to glance at the hundred and fifty thousand specimens of plants that are enclosed within the walls; we must be content, therefore, to notice what appears most noticeable in a casual survey, leaving it to future visits to gain an insight into the inexhaustible treasures that are spread out around us on every side.

The trees alone, ordinary and extraordinary, that form the rich *bosquets* that stud the smooth greensward, would be a study of themselves; but we are in a land of strangers, and to them we must chiefly direct our attention. The "architectural greenhouse," the gift of the late King, on the right, as we enter the grounds, contains foreigners, from New Holland, Australia, and the Cape: grey tinted, with zig-zag leaves, how strange is their appearance. As we proceed, our steps are detained by the sight of a group of pine-trees planted in tubs, presenting a sight of surpassing beauty. Never before were collected together three pines of such remarkable attractions. They are of different species, but all lovely; the first, the *Arucaria excelsa*, well deserves the priority claimed by its name. Its feathery branches swaying in the wind, almost vie with the plume of the ostrich. Another, scarcely less attractive, grows beside it; and the Bedwill pine (named after its discoverer) is the third; this last, by the way, bears cones as large as a child's head, but of the form of the pine-apple without its crown: its seeds, of the size and flavour of the chestnut, are used at desert in South America, and as common food by the native Australian.

Though impatient to reach the Palm-house, already in view, we cannot pass that venerable cedar without a glance of sympathy; itself a wreck, it seems difficult to believe that England now possesses more of this stately fir than all the range of Lebanon put together. "How are the mighty fallen and the lowly exalted," when the isles of the West are thus honoured, and the land of the East is become bare of the tree whose very presence once gave that land renown.

As a specimen of the freaks of nature to be seen in the Gardens, we may notice a very rare tree from a land with which we are as little familiar. It is a native of Japan, with a tall, taper stem, and looks as regularly and perfectly twisted as the horn of the narwhal, but without even a name to distinguish it. But we must linger no longer by the way to admire the young avenue of *Deodars*, or the beautiful groups of shrubs and flowers that present themselves on either side; for the Palm-house is too near and too attractive not to demand our undivided attention. To most of our London readers this beautiful glass structure is probably well known. To those in the country a brief description may be acceptable. It comprises an area of three hundred and sixty-two feet in length; the centre is a hundred feet wide, and sixty-six feet in height; with wings fifty feet in length, and thirty feet high. It is covered with an extent of glass (slightly tinted with green to temper the rays of the sun), of no less than fifty-four thousand feet; and is, without question, the most elegant building of its kind extant.

This beautiful structure is warmed by water, so disposed in pipes that almost any degree of heat may be generated; but during the three years in which it has been in operation it has never been found necessary to use the full force at command. In the sharpest days of winter, eleven furnaces have been lighted to raise the temperature to the point required by its delicate inmates. In the months of July and August four fires have been found sufficient; and it is possible that, like other tropical plants, its inhabitants may eventually be found to possess an innate capacity of living and flourishing in a temperature below their natural one. Such power of adaptation has been found to exist in the tea-shrub of China; and in the Gardens may be seen specimens of both the black and the green tea growing in the open air. Nor must we omit to call attention to another Chinese plant for which these Gardens are renowned. At the end of one of the stoves is to be seen the Tree-Peony of China—the showy and delicate *Moutan*, originally introduced into this country by Sir Joseph Banks, and which is said to be the parent of all the *Moutans* in Europe. Who would think that a single shrub should have been the means of disseminating upwards of a hundred thousand pounds among the various nursery-men at home and abroad? But such is the fact.

However beautiful the Palm-house may be in itself, its contents will be found at least worthy of the shrine. We live in a wonderful age, when these gigantic children of the sun can be induced to live and flourish amongst us, not in a dwarfish decrepitude, but stately and vigorously, as though they determined to forget their native land, and even in exile to maintain the character that Linnaeus assigned them, as princes of the vegetable kingdom.

And who can look upon the various specimens before us nor feel that of the two hundred thousand plants that science has drilled into species and ranked into orders, Nature herself has stamped on the Palms the sovereignty of their kind? Adorning every quarter of the globe, they seem to demand the homage of every nation and people. Europe, however, can boast of only two specimens of the tribe growing spontaneously within it. Spain, Portugal, and Italy are the countries thus favoured with the Dwarf Fan-Palm and a species of the date, and which are supposed to have been originally derived from the sands of Africa, where they abound. It is a fact rather remarkable that in the time of Linnaeus only fifteen species of this beautiful tree were known; we now number four hundred and forty, and it is considered probable that not less than a thousand varieties will eventually be discovered to exist.

The view on the preceding page is taken from the top of the staircase, a point admirably adapted to enable the spectator to see the trees from above, as well as for the purpose of airing and watering them. It will afford a general idea of the effect, but what picture can do justice to the exquisite foliage exhibited on all sides? The two loftiest palms represented in the plate, are different kinds of cocoa-nut. The one, *Cocos plumosa*, is an old inhabitant of the Gardens.

The other, *Cocos coronata*, a remarkably fine tree, was the gift of Sir George Staunton; and, notwithstanding its great size, was actually transported by railroad from Leigh Park, Hampshire: how much care and anxiety this precious freight occasioned to all connected with it, can be easily imagined. The two stoutest palms in the collection are the West Indian Fan-palms, with fan-shaped leaves: these are considered very fine specimens, weighing, with the earth and tubs in which they are planted, not less than seventeen tons each! Another, *Caryota urens*, bears a leaf much divided, each leaflet of which resembles in form the fin of a fish.

Among the most interesting species in the collection is the Date-Palm of commerce and of Scripture. This family is about thirty years in coming to maturity; it remains about seventy years in its prime, and then decays. Thus, as the Arabs say, "it lives three lives," or generations. Its fruit grows in clusters, from the trunk of the tree, between the leaves. In a good season, a vigorous plant will produce from fifteen to twenty of these clusters, each weighing about as many pounds. Burchardt states that he was told that one hundred different varieties grew in the immediate neighbourhood of Medina. Dates intended for commerce are not allowed to attain to full maturity; and it is a saying among the Arabs, that a good housewife may produce a dish of dates differently dressed every day for a month. Even the stones of this fruit are famous, as furnishing (when soaked) food for camels, cows, and sheep.

The most difficult Palm to rear is said to be one of the most useful—the Guinea Oil-Palm, from which the well-known African palm-oil is extracted; and the common Cocoa-nut, of which the various uses are said to be as numerous as the days in the year; producing for the native inhabitants of its clime bread-fruit, milk, oil, wine or toddy, wood, fibre, &c. Then there is the Cabbage-Palm, distinguished for its single crown; and the Palm with the unpronounceable name given it by Dr. Willich, with its remarkable stem, the spines being united like the fingers of the hand, and possessing a foliage quite unmatched. Its leaves, when full-grown and expanded, are so long as to seem to need support, and are actually supplied by nature with hooks, by means of which they attach themselves to other trees, to sustain their weight. There is also the Wild Date-Palm;

Cut by the Indian for its juicy balm.

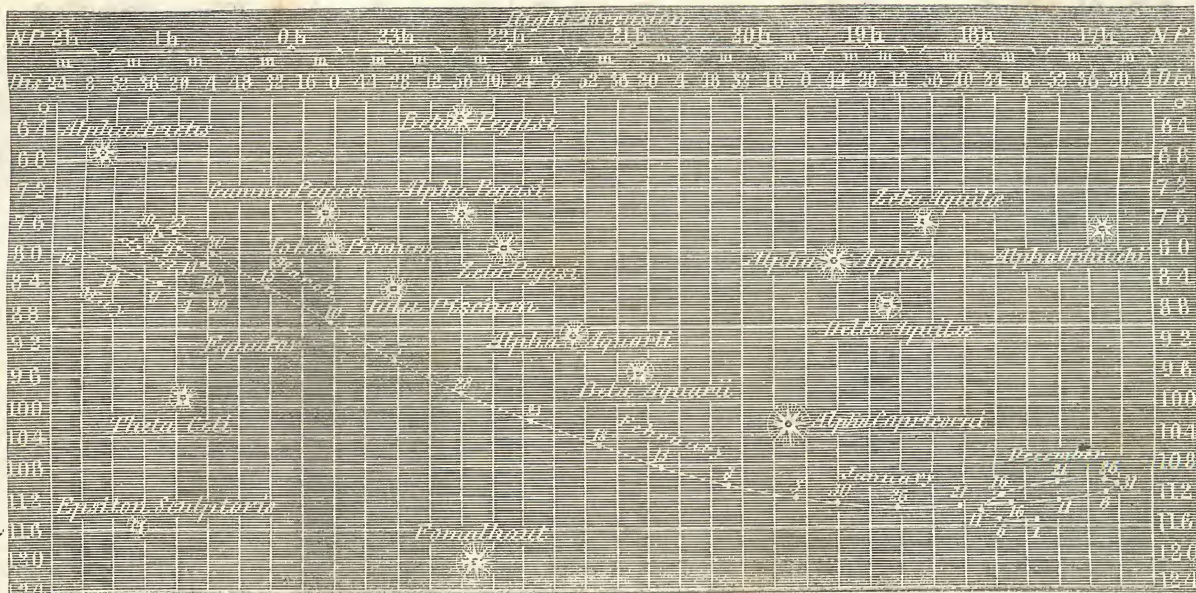
The beautiful Ivory-Palm from New Granada finds a home here also. It is remarkable that its nuts (known as vegetable ivory) possess a hardness exceeding that of the tusk of the elephant; which yet soften in water, and are again hardened when dried. They are used for such ornamental carvings as their size will admit of. The Wax-Palm is not less remarkable for its leaves than for its singular trunk; it grows from the earth on myriads of separate stems, scarcely thicker than a willow wand; but which, at a distance from the ground, unite themselves to form a massive pillar, with cross-bars at equal distances, formed by the falling of their leaves, which we know to have extended to twenty feet in length. A recent traveller asserts that, in their native wilds, he has seen monkeys gambling together between the various roots that support this noble tree! In the Andes of New Granada it is covered with a substance like wax, from which it derives its name.

Before we conclude this brief sketch of some of the Palm tribe now before us, we may, perhaps, mention that science has discovered their remains among us in the wealden strata of Tilgate Forest. Nor are they confined to this locality alone. In the Isle of Sheppey, composed entirely of what is called London clay, no less than thirteen species have been discovered, with upwards of a hundred varieties of its fruits. The quantity of both animal and vegetable remains that have recently been discovered, of a tropical character, leads to the supposition that our climate must have undergone great changes, as the perfect state of preservation in which they are found, together with their numbers, hardly admit of a supposition that they were transported from any great distance before they found their final resting-place among us.

Bandanas and plantains may always be seen here in their various stages of flowers or fruits, towering over the lesser trees: even in this country they have borne clusters of fruit weighing eighty pounds. The grass-like sugar-cane and the papyrus of the ancients flourish side by side: the tall, triangular reed-like stem of the latter plant is of peculiar interest when we reflect that from the pith of a similar plant was made the paper on which the MSS. found in Herculaneum and Pompeii were written. The bamboo is here, also, in its natural form, and not as we are accustomed to see it; the mango, with its rich fruit depending from the end of its stalk; the bread-fruit of the Pacific Islands; the chocolate-tree, putting forth its flowers from its trunk; the coffee-shrub, the nutmeg-tree, the pepper-plant, with a hundred others, all are to be seen in their native guise, ere the hand of man has prepared their fruits or seeds to satisfy his necessity or his luxury.

Young plants of the banyan-tree of India, with a vast variety of the fig species, are not the least interesting. The acamora of Scripture of the latter tribe, whose wood formed the mummy-cases of the Egyptians, and was once believed to be indestructible, is worthy of notice. The poison-tree of Madagascar, and the upas-tree of Java, of evil repute, grow *vis-à-vis* with the Patchouli, of fashionable notoriety. But we have not space even to name a title of the vegetable wonders which the Palm-house contains. We cannot, however, conclude this brief notice without mentioning the gum-dragon-tree, of which tradition relates that this individual specimen was venerated by the Guanches (the aborigines of Tenerife). It is supposed that, in 1400, it was large and hollow, as it is now. Its age is said to be incalculable. This species of tree, with the boadab, is supposed to be the oldest inhabitants of our planet; and, as such, is, perhaps, the most wonderful, though by no means the most attractive of its race, to be seen within the precincts of the Palm-house at Kew.

MARCH.



Scale, 24 degrees to one inch.

THE PATH OF MERCURY FROM DECEMBER 1, 1852, TO MAY 19, 1853.

THE SUN is situated south of the Equator till the 20th, on which day he crosses it at 4h. 24m. P.M. He is in the sign Pisces (the Fishes) till the 20th, having been in that sign 29 days 23 hours 57 minutes. On the 1st day, at about noon, he is 94,195,500 miles from the Earth, increasing to his mean distance, 95,000,000 miles, at about midnight on the last day. He rises at the E. by S. point of the horizon at the beginning of the month; at the East on the 20th; and midway between the E. and E. by N. towards the end of the month. He sets at the corresponding points in the West at about the same period. The times of his rising, southing, and setting, in ordinary clock time, together with his angular measure above the horizon at his greatest altitude, are given daily in the calendar pages.

On the 1st, the Moon enters Scorpio; on the 2nd, Ophiuchus; on the 3rd, Sagittarius, which she leaves on the 5th, and passes into Capricornus; from thence she enters, on the 7th, into Aquarius; on the 9th, Pisces; on the 10th, Cetus; and on the 12th, re-enters Cetus, having passed again through Pisces; then, traversing the boundaries of Cetus and Aries, enters, on the 14th, into Taurus; in which constellation she remains until the 18th, when she enters Gemini; passing from thence, on the 20th, into Cancer; on the 21st she enters Leo; on the 24th, Virgo; on the 27th, Libra; and on the 29th passing through Scorpio and Ophiuchus, enters, on the 31st, into Sagittarius.

She is above the horizon when the Sun is below during the morning hours till the 3rd, and after the 19th; and during the night hours from the 12th to the 26th.

he reaches her extreme south declination on the evening of the 4th; crosses the Equator, going northward, on the 11th; is at her extreme north declination on the morning of the 19th; crosses the Equator, going south, on the 25th; and reaches her extreme south declination about midnight on the 31st.

She is near Jupiter on the 3rd; Venus and Mars on the 8th; Mercury on the 10th; Uranus on the 13th; Saturn on the 14th; and Jupiter on the 30th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Aquarius till the 2nd; in Pisces till the 11th; in Cetus till the 17th; and in Pisces to the end of the month. He rises after the

Sun throughout the month, and therefore is not visible in the morning. He sets after the Sun at 5h. 43m. on the 1st; at 6h. 57m. on the 10th; at 7h. 33m. on the 15th; at 7h. 59m. on the 20th; at 8h. 13m. on the 25th; and on the 31st at 8h. 6m. These times follow those of the Sun by 10m. on the 1st; increasing to 1h. 4m. on the 10th; to 1h. 31m. on the 15th; to 1h. 48m. on the 20th; to 1h. 55m. on the 25th; and decreasing to 1h. 36m. on the last day. The planet is therefore very favourably situated for observation in the evenings from the 10th. He sets on the 10th near the W. by S.; on the 18th, near the W.; and on the 26th, near the W. by N. points of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars till the 30th, and is stationary among them on the 31st; is near the Moon on the 10th; in perihelion on the 16th; and at his greatest eastern elongation on the 23rd. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the above diagram.

Venus is in the constellation Capricornus till the 3rd; in Aquarius till the 21st; and in Pisces to the end of the month. She is a morning star, rising, however, only 30 minutes before the Sun on the 1st; decreasing to 2 minutes by the last day; on the 4th she rises near the E.S.E., and day by day a little more E., till on the 20th she rises E. by S., and nearly E. at the end of the month. She is moving eastward among the stars, is near the Moon on the 8th, Mars on the 25th, and in aphelion on the 9th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in February.

MARS is in the constellation Aquarius till the 17th, and in Pisces to the end of the month. He is badly situated for observation, his times of rising being nearly the same as those of the Sun, and he sets before him. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 8th, and Venus on the 25th; is in perihelion on the 9th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in April.

JUPITER is in the constellation Ophiuchus throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 2h. 51m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 2h. 3m. A.M.; and on the last day at 1h. 4m. A.M., near the S.E. by E. point of the horizon. He is moving east-

(Continued on page 52.)

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.						JUPITER'S SATELLITES.				OCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.			
	Mercury.		Venus.		Mars.		Jupiter.		Saturn.		Uranus.		Names of the Stars.	Magni- tude.
	Afternoon	Morning.	Afternoon	Morning.	Afternoon	Morning.	Afternoon	Morning.	Afternoon	Morning.	Afternoon	Morning.		
1	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	Iota Tauri	4
6	0 25	11 3	11 46	6 49	4 8	3 36	2 5 32 A.M.	17 3 54 A.M.	16 11 6 P.M.	16 11 57 P.M.	16 11 0 P.M.	Dark		Equator to 70° N.
11	0 41	11 7	11 41	6 32	3 50	3 17	18 3 47 A.M.	3rd Satellite	26 11 0 P.M.	27 0 6 A.M.	27 2 42 A.M.	Bright		80° N.
16	0 55	11 11	11 36	6 15	3 32	2 58	25 5 41 A.M.	24 2 44 A.M. D.	27 2 42 A.M.	27 3 50 A.M.	29 0 34 A.M.	Dark		5° S.
21	1 6	11 15	11 31	5 57	3 14	2 40		24 5 5 A.M. R.	27 2 42 A.M.	27 3 50 A.M.	29 0 34 A.M.	Bright		15° N. & 80° N.
26	1 12	11 19	11 26	5 39	2 57	2 21			27 2 42 A.M.	27 3 50 A.M.	29 0 34 A.M.	Dark	Kappa Virginis	4
31	1 19	11 22	11 21	5 20	2 39	2 2			27 3 36 A.M. R.	17 3 49 A.M. D.		Dark		70° N.
	0 55	11 25	11 15	5 1	2 22	1 43								

RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS WHEN PASSING THE MERIDIAN.

				1	23h. 2m.	97° 52'	21h. 44m.	104° 44'	22h. 26m.	100° 59'	17h. 26m.	112° 39'	2h. 45m.	76° 15'	2h. 13m.	77° 3'
LAST QUARTER	2d.	1h. 40m.	P.M.	6	23 37	93 29	22 8	102 45	22 41	99 31	17 28	112 40	2 47	76 6	2 14	76 59
NEW MOON	9	8 19	P.M.	11	0 11	89 52	22 32	100 36	22 55	98 1	17 30	112 41	2 49	75 57	2 15	76 54
FIRST QUARTER	17	11 34	P.M.	16	0 42	84 25	22 56	98 21	23 10	96 29	17 32	112 42	2 51	75 48	2 16	76 50
FULL MOON	25	6 20	A.M.	21	1 8	80 49	23 19	96 0	23 24	94 56	17 33	112 43	2 53	75 38	2 17	76 45
LAST QUARTER	31	9 42	P.M.	26	1 24	78 4	23 42	93 35	23 39	93 22	17 35	112 44	2 55	75 27	2 18	76 40
APOGEE	15	5 0	A.M.	31	1 31	77 0	0 4	91 7	23 53	91 48	17 35	112 45	2 57	75 17	2 19	76 34
PERIGEE	27	2 0	A.M.													

APRIL

Day of Month	Day of Week	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, FES- TIVALS, &c.	SUN.				MOON.				DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.										HIGH WATER				Day of the Year.
			SOUTHS.				SOUTHS.				Before Sunrise.					After Sunset.					AT LONDON BRIDGE.				
			Rises.	After 12 o'clock.		Sets.	Rises.	Morning.		Sets.	O'Clock.					O'Clock.					Morning.	Afternoon			
			H. M.	M. S.	D. S.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	Deg.	H. M.	0 2 3 4 5					Moon's Age.	7 8 9 10 12					H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.
1	F	All Fools Day	5 38	3 55	43	6 31	2 46	6 33	13 1	10 21					23			7 5	7 40	91					
2	S	Procyon souths 6h 48m P.M.	5 36	3 37	43	6 33	3 37	7 30	14 1	11 29					24			8 20	9 5	92					
3	S	1st S. aft. EAST.	5 34	3 19	44	6 35	4 14	8 24	17 1	Afternoon					25			9 55	10 40	93					
4	M	St. Ambrose	5 31	3 1	44	6 37	4 41	9 14	21 1	1 57					26			11 25	At Midnight.	94					
5	Tu	Alpha Hydrie souths 5h 24m P.M.	5 29	2 44	44	6 38	5 2	10 1	25 1	3 10					27			No Tide.	0 30	95					
6	W	O. Lady D. Oxf.	5 27	2 26	45	6 40	5 21	10 45	30 1	4 21					28			0 55	1 20	96					
7	Th	[T. b. Cam. T. b	5 24	2 9	45	6 41	5 36	11 28	35 1	5 31					29			1 40	2 0	97					
8	F	Fire Insurance due	5 22	1 52	45	6 43	5 51	Afternoon	41 1	6 41					30			2 15	2 30	98					
9	S	Uranus in conjunction with the Moon at 11h 23m P.M.	5 20	1 35	46	6 44	6 6	0 51	46 1	7 48					1			2 50	3 5	99					
10	S	2ND S. aft. EAST.	5 18	1 19	46	6 45	6 23	1 33	51 1	8 57					2			3 15	3 35	100					
11	M	Mercury in inf. conjunction with Sun at 1h 53m A.M.	5 15	1 3	47	6 47	6 42	2 16	55 1	10 4					3			3 50	4 5	101					
12	Tu	Regulus souths 5h 38m P.M.	5 13	0 46	47	6 48	7 3	3 25	58 1	11 10					4			4 15	4 30	102					
13	W	Length of day 13h 39m	5 11	0 31	47	6 50	7 33	3 49	60 1	Morning.					5			4 45	5 0	103					
14	Th	Mercury in conjunction with Venus at 10h 29m P.M.	5 9	0 16	48	6 52	8 10	4 39	62 1	0 15					6			5 15	5 35	104					
15	F	Easter Term beg.	5 7	Before 12 o'clock.	48	6 54	8 52	5 30	62 1	1 13					7			5 55	6 10	105					
16	S	Beta Leonis souths at 10h 2m P.M.	5 5	0 14	48	6 55	9 50	6 21	61 1	2 3					8			6 35	7 0	106					
17	S	3RD S. aft. EAST.	5 2	0 29	49	6 57	10 55	7 13	59 1	2 44					9			7 30	8 10	107					
18	M	Beta Corvi souths at 10h 39m P.M.	5 0	0 43	49	6 59	Afternoon	8 55	55 1	3 18					10			8 55	9 35	108					
19	Tu	Alphage	4 58	0 56	49	7 1	1 27	8 56	50 1	3 46					11			10 20	11 0	109					
20	W	Length of night 9h 54m	4 56	1 9	50	7 2	2 48	9 47	45 1	4 7					12			11 35	No Tide.	110					
21	Th	Spica souths at 11h 17m P.M.	4 55	1 22	50	7 4	4 11	10 37	39 1	4 26					13			0 5	0 30	111					
22	F	Eta Boe's souths at 11h 43m P.M.	4 53	1 35	50	7 6	5 26	11 30	32 1	4 46					14			0 55	1 15	112					
23	S	St. George	4 51	1 47	51	7 8	7 6	Morning.		5 6					15			1 40	1 55	113					
24	S	4TH S. aft. EAST.	4 49	1 58	51	7 10	8 36	0 24	26 1	5 27					16			2 15	2 35	114					
25	M	St. Mark. Prs.	4 47	2 9	51	7 11	10 4	1 21	20 1	5 55					17			3 0	3 20	115					
26	Tu	[Alice b., 1843	4 45	2 19	52	7 13	11 29	2 21	16 1	6 28					18			3 40	4 5	116					
27	W	Length of day 14h 31m	4 43	2 29	52	7 14	Morning.	3 22	13 1	7 12					19			4 25	4 50	117					
28	Th	Uranus in conjunction with the Sun at 10h 13m P.M.	4 41	2 39	52	7 16	0 40	4 24	12 1	8 8					20			5 10	5 35	118					
29	F	Mercury in Apulion at 10h 25m A.M.	4 39	2 48	53	7 17	1 35	5 24	13 1	9 18					21			6 0	6 30	119					
30	S	Arcturus due south at 11h 31m P.M.	4 37	2 56	53	7 19	2 17	6 20	16 1	10 30					22			7 0	7 30	120					





THE THAMES SEAWARD.

STRANGE is the fact, and worthy of notice, that persons accustomed to the active occupations of life, instead of seeking in their amusements the contrast of perfect quiet and repose, would appear to devote, almost exclusively, their leisure hours to that bustle and turmoil which habit, it is to be supposed, has rendered necessary to them. Hence it is, that by far the larger number of London holiday-makers who seek their enjoyment on the river, and who form no inconsiderable portion of the whole, instead of selecting the pure atmosphere and quiet pleasures

in which it is the most rich the more nearly we approach its source, turn to the smoke and excitement which characterise its course towards the sea. It is true that there may be green fields and fresh air to be found in that direction; that Blackheath has verdant hills, and Greenwich a broad and undefiled stream; but it is questionable how far even these advantages afford an adequate compensation for the ordeal which has to be undergone in attaining them. If, however, there be a deficiency of the purer and higher enjoyments which we derive from the communion of the spirit with the works of the Creator, the scene is abundantly wealthy in those pleasures more easily grasped, which even the least enthusiastic mind derives from a sight of the practical labours of man.

There is, perhaps, no city in the world of which the main features and characteristics can be so easily recognised, without setting foot in it, as London, from the river Thames. Wealth in its wharves, labour on its quays, busy life on its bridges, fellowship and brotherhood with all the world in its docks, are all eloquent of that universality of character which it possesses in the estimation of the world. But we are not in a conspiracy to weary our readers

with a treatise on the wealth of nations, or to rival the commercial honours of Mr. McCulloch; it is in the pleasure to be derived from the scenes referred to that our interest chiefly lies, and with that only have we now to concern ourselves. To our progenitors of a hundred years ago, who, if prompted by necessity or inclination to cross the Thames at any point west of old London-bridge, were indebted to the precarious assistance of a wherry and a waterman (a character of London life, by the way, almost as extinct as the chairman and linkboy of former days), how bewildering a sight would that broad expanse of water now present; how surprising would seem that ingenuity and enterprise which have rendered this apparently inconvenient highway a rival even to the busiest streets. General convenience, and especially facility of access from the more frequented parts of town, have rendered the pier at Hungerford-stairs the centre of that portion of London nautical life which extends to the first glimpse of the blue waters of the Channel, and it is therefore the point where our first acquaintance with it will commence. Let us take a passing glance at this busy rendezvous before we are called upon to leave it. The sun is shining over head with that tempered radiance by which it is usually characterised in the opening days of Spring: the sky is clear and blue, wearing an aspect of unmistakeable promise; and the air is soft, balmy, and inspiring. The roar of the escaping steam, and the clatter of innumerable feet on the crowded platform, indicate the speedy departure of one of the larger river steamers bound for some more distant bourne than London-bridge. Excursionists for Gravesend, of whom ourselves form one; soldiers for Woolwich, pensioners for Greenwich, and idlers for Blackwall, are all rushing on board at the same moment, and paying but slight regard to the claims of precedence or politeness. Above the busy hum of the multitude may be heard the shrill voice of the call-boy, who, having taken up his position, is intently watching for the movement of the captain's hand to direct the progress of the vessel; and, after a minute's grace yielded to the entreating gestures of a lady who is seen in the distance approaching with hasty steps, the boat

moves off, and our voyage is fairly commenced. Now are the musicians endeavouring to extract harmonious sounds from a cracked violin and an asthmatic flute; now is the news-boy wriggling his way in and out, like a dog in a fair, soliciting every one to purchase a penny *Punch*, and a copy of some weekly newspaper at a reduced price, which is not much more than a fortnight old. Here a pale-faced mechanic, with his basket stored with some three times the quantity of provisions which he would have deemed necessary had he remained at home, is explaining to an even sicker-looking wife, the particular uses of the gigantic machinery which propels the boat along. There the dockyard artisan is measuring with an experienced eye the scantling, and calculating the tonnage of every steamer that passes him, and discourses with learned earnestness on the comparative advantages of breadth of beam and round sterns. Whilst every one is thus devoting his attention to that point in the scene around, which appeals most strongly to his individual tastes, let us derive what pleasure we may from the dingy localities we are so rapidly passing: in association consists their sole interest, but in that at least they are not deficient.

How difficult it is to imagine that the space now occupied by that row, almost uninterrupted, of coal-barges, should have formed appropriate havens for pleasure-boats, and homes for the swan and rarer water-fowl; that the soft green turf could ever have extended along that mass of dark mud; and that the dull and dismal streets leading down to it, so familiar to lodging-seekers from the country, which, at a bird's-eye view, look like nothing better than so many gloomy alleys, could represent the palaces and pleasantries of the old nobility of England. Yet so it is. Buckingham, the gay; Burleigh, the sagacious; Bacon, the wise; and Northumberland, the ambitious, here played out their several parts in the eventful drama of life; and the only vestige that remains of the magnificence that once surrounded them, is a low quaint old water-gate, half buried in rank vegetation, which formed the river entrance to old Buckingham House.

As we pass the western boundary of the city, a wide "change comes over the spirit of our dream," for the stately edifices of the Temple rise up before us—

Where now the studious lawyers have their bowers;

The mind, finding it difficult to picture them, in the earlier stages of their history, reverts less to the stern days of Hugh de Payen, or the revelries of its masques and its mummings, than to that comparatively recent time when its gardens afforded a breathing space from the turmoil of their struggling lives to the greater minds of the age. Here Johnson may have matured some of the more vigorous thoughts of his capacious mind, and revealed to Boswell the history of his early youth and struggling manhood: seldom, surely, has there been so sweet a kernel in so rough a rind! Within its precincts Goldsmith subjected himself to the anathemas of Mr. Blackstone, who was then engaged in the chambers beneath him on the fourth volume of his "Commentaries," by the distracting convivialities of his frequent social gatherings in Brick-court; but found time also in their intervals to conjure up the pure memories of his early years, and perpetuate them in his "Deserted Village." Here also opens to us the most saddening page in the history of the gentle-minded Cowper.

Whitefriars, the Alsatia, that seems to exist for us once more in the pages of Scott; Blackfriars, suggestive of monkish superstitions, and Mrs. Radcliffe; and the Iron Bridge of Southwark, pass before us, one after the other. As we approach the last, an inquiry of a lady whether she ought not to stop at the bridge for Bankside, recalls to our mind clouds of memories of Shakespeare and Burbage, Condell and Hemming; for there stood the Globe Theatre, where they laboured, and its rival, the Fortune. There John Stubbs and the bear-baiting of olden times yielded to the refinements of the drama, and the Chevalier de Beaujeu afforded his contemporaries their first insight into the mysteries of the Parisian *cuisine*. The sight of the gigantic structure of London-bridge, looking like a great barrier to protect us in our daily life from the invasion of the mass of shipping beyond; and of the Custom House—not without memories even to the most virtuous of us, of contraband gloves and illicit eau de Cologne, warning us that the first stage of our journey is accomplished—hardly proves unwelcome. Our memory and our imagination have been somewhat severely taxed in gilding the dingy scenes as they now present themselves with something of their former glory; and we feel impatient, like our fellow-voyagers, for the objective in place of the suggestive. But here, indeed, both are combined in the Tower of London. We are strangely fascinated by its lowering gloom, and gaze at the low stone arch which overhangs the Traitors' Gate—

That gate, misnamed, through which before
Went Sidney, Russell, Raleigh, Cranmer, More—

until we could imagine it stealthily opening for the reception of a victim, nay, almost identify ourselves with him, and feel the heart-sinking of despair as it closes behind him with a mournful clang. Notwithstanding this realisation of its terrors, we see its disappearance with regret, until the novel view opening upon us as we approach the Pool, engrosses our undivided attention.

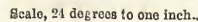
We now enter in earnest upon the river life of London, a phase of its realities, almost as distinct in its individual characteristics as though it were a separate world. It has its own habits, its own language, its own pleasures, its own peculiar employments, its own guardians to watch over its peace, and its own court to redress its grievances. Instead of our attention being now diverted from it, by the more potent associations which have thus far been attached to its banks, we are arriving at a point in our journey at which the objects that we encounter on its margin possess no interest save that which they borrow from it. The surrounding buildings are but warehouses; the traffic of the narrow alleys adjacent is confined to slop clothes and ship biscuits: the public-houses

are sacred to the Vernons and Benbows of former days; the air is redolent of pitch and twice-laid cordage; and the appearance of society around it is decidedly amphibious. Forests of shipping, of every size, of every class, of every clime, packed side by side, in orderly rows, seem to bar our progress at every turn; and our captain, who has hitherto partially entrusted our safety to the discretion of the helmsman, now watches himself with cautious eye the numerous and varied obstructions. Collier brigs, with their double masts and square sails; billy-boys—halfship, half barge—laden with grain from the north; schuyts and galliots from Holland, heavy looking, but safe, like the people who own them; schooners laden with oranges and dried fruit, from Spain; bacon from Ireland; and whisky from the Land of Cakes; passenger steamers, black-funnelled, going out, laden with holiday-makers, for Boulogne or Ostend; and mighty vessels, triple-masted, long looked for by many an anxious heart, coming in laden with the freights of the Indies. In a word, evidences of enterprise from every quarter of the globe encounter us as we wind our tortuous way through the outworks of our modern Tyre. That long mass of dull brick buildings, which the union-jack on the flag-staff denotes to be national property, slumbersome-looking enough now, is all that remains of the once famous dockyard of Deptford. In the days when Woolwich was but a small fishing village, and before the broom of De Ruyter had swept the seas up to Gravesend, Deptford was the great workshop of the rising naval marine of Great Britain. From its capacious sheds first issued the fleet with which Howard vanquished the Armada, and Drake started on the voyage round the world, to which he was to owe the nobler portion of his fame. In its immediate vicinity stood the mansion and far-famed gardens of Sayes Court—home of the gentle and courtly Evelyn, that model of the true English gentleman of the olden school. There he exchanged grave counsel with Jeremy Taylor, listened to the melodious verses of Cowley, and to the gossip (not always dignified) of Pepys.

As we advance we seem to see something in the river of communion with the salt-water of the Channel, though still remote; vessels become more rare, or, perhaps, from the increased breadth of the stream, are less noticeable; we are leaving behind us the thick and smoky atmosphere of the City, and emerging into the purer air of its seaward banks. During the period we have been thus devoting to the contemplation of passing objects, we have been necessarily somewhat deficient in attention to the proceedings of our fellow-voyagers. As, however, we approach Greenwich, where we shall, in all probability, lose a considerable number of our companions, we are aroused to the more practical features of the scene by an appeal from the violin, for our contribution towards the expenses of the popular airs wherewith he has at intervals been disturbing our contemplations since we left Hungerford. We bestow our mite with philosophical resignation, not the less contentedly upon his assurance that the concert is over, and turn for five minutes' amusement to the little world around us. Fathers of families are becoming weary of confinement; their children, as a principle, are growing decidedly fractious; and there is a general feeling of satisfaction when the call-boy gives directions to "Ease her!" at Greenwich pier.

It is strange how completely the more romantic associations attached to a place may be marred by one vulgar idea connected with its name. To those who have never seen Greenwich, with its beautiful park, its ancient timber, and its stately edifices; the first thought that presents itself is of Greenwich fair, as the type of all that is gross and demoralizing. But let them visit its noble institutions, wander in its time-honoured walks, gather up the memories that cling around every rood of ground, and every stone of its stately palace, and their prejudice will be for ever conquered.

Here stood one of the most popular residences of the Kings of England, during the reigns of the Sovereigns of the Tudor and Stuart dynasties; and such might it have continued had not Queen Mary II. devoted it to the nobler destination of affording "relief and support to seamen serving on board the ships belonging to the Navy Royal, who shall be incapable of further service at sea." Of the objects of interest to be met with here, Nelson's hat and silk stockings; the window from which King Charles did not escape; portraits of admirals, from Howard to Jervis, in all the incongruous glories of breast plates and full bottomed wigs; and views of our victories from Southwold Bay to St. Vincent, time is wanting us to describe. We have disembogued that portion of our freight, whose pilgrimage has an especial value to these relics; and are once again on our way with those whose aim may be a glance at the wonderful labours of Woolwich Dockyard, or the semi-marine attractions of Gravesend. After a glimpse, as we pass the former place, of its ships in course of construction, looking on *terra firma* like gigantic castles; of the gangs of convicts at work on the glaring stone quays; and of the building beyond where is perpetually maturing some new feature in the science of warfare; we pursue our way onwards, until the battlements, but little suggestive of battle, of the small tower of Rosherville gardens, and the union-jack on the pier a little further on, give welcome token that our journey is drawing to a close. Gravesend, from its proximity to the sea and its facility of access from London, has acquired, of late years, something akin to the dignity of a watering-place, and occupies a sort of intermediate position between the mere holiday rarities of Greenwich and the pretentious marine reputation of Margate. Here, in consequence, may be found all the ordinary resources for passing time peculiar to those localities which are dependent for their prosperity upon such inducements in the way of enjoyment as they may be able to offer in the shape of baths, bazaars, dances, donkey-rides, and *al-fresco* concerts. Rosherville, with its manifold attractions to the mere pleasure-seeker; Spring-head, with its water-cresses; Southfleet Church, with its hieroglyphical inscriptions; Windmill-hill and its view; Gads-hill, and its recollections—all present their several attractions, to meet the varied tastes of the voyagers to Gravesend.



THE PATH OF MARS FROM JANUARY 1 TO JUNE 30, 1853.

MERCURY is in the constellation Pisces throughout the month. He rises with the Sun on the 4th, and before him from the 5th, by 10m. on the 10th, increasing to 31m. on the last day. He sets on the 1st at 8h. 2m.; on the 5th at 7h. 39m.; on the 11th at 6h. 48m.; and from the 12th before the Sun. He is, therefore, favourably situated for observation during the evenings of a few days at the be-

JUPITER is in the constellation Ophiuchus throughout the month. He is visible after midnight, rising on the 1st at 11 h. O.M., on the 15th at midnight; and on the last day at 10 h 59 m. A.M., near the S.E. by E. point of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars till the 9th; is stationary on the 10th; is moving westward from the 11th; and is near the Moon on the 27th; he souths at an altitude of $15^{\circ} 47'$ nearly on every day throughout the month. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars see the diagram in September.

SATURN is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He sets on the
(Continued on page 52.)

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON, And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee) or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth in each Lunation.					Days of the Month.	RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS WHEN PASSING THE MERIDIAN.											
						MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.	
						Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.
NEW MOON ..	8d.	11h.	57m.	A.M.	1	1h. 30m	76° 59'	0h. 9m	90° 37'	23h. 57m	91° 29'	17h. 36m	112° 45'	2h. 57m	75° 15'	2h. 19m	76° 33'
FIRST QUARTER	16	4	45	P.M.	6	1 25	77 30	0 32	88 8	0 10	89 54	17 36	112 45	3 0	75 4	2 20	76 28
FULL MOON ..	23	3	12	P.M.	11	1 11	80 27	0 54	85 40	0 24	88 21	17 36	112 45	3 2	74 54	2 21	76 23
LAST QUARTER	30	6	51	A.M.	16	1 1	82 58	1 17	83 14	0 38	86 48	17 36	112 45	3 4	74 43	2 22	76 17
APOGEE ..	11	8	0	P.M.	21	0 56	84 56	1 40	80 52	0 53	85 16	17 35	112 44	3 7	74 32	2 23	76 11
PERIGEE ..	24	9	0	A.M.	26	0 58	85 53	2 4	78 35	1 7	83 46	17 34	112 44	3 9	74 22	2 24	76 6
					30	1 4	85 54	2 22	76 50	1 18	82 35	17 33	112 44	3 11	74 13	2 26	76 0

MAY

Day of Month	Day of Week	ANNIVERSARIES, OCCURRENCES, FESTIVALS, &c.	SUN.					MOON.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.												HIGH WATER.				Day of the Year.
			SOUTH.					SOUTH.					Before Sunrise.				After Sunset.				AT LONDON BRIDGE.								
			Rises.	Before 12 o'Clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Morning.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	O'Clock.	1	2	3	4	O'Clock.	8	9	10	11	12	Morning.	Afternoon						
h.	m.		m.	s.	Deg.	h.	m.	h.	m.	Deg.	h.	m.										h.	m.	h.	m.				
1	S	ROGATION SUN.	4 35	3 4	53 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 21	2 46	7 12	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	11 46						23							8 10	8 55		121			
2	M	[Pr. Ar. b. 1850	4 33	3 11	54	7 23	3 10	8 0	23 $\frac{3}{4}$	Afternoon						24							9 40	10 20		122			
3	Tu	Invent. of Cross	4 31	3 18	54 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 24	3 27	8 45	28 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 12						25							11 0	11 30		123			
4	W	Beta Leonis due south at 8h 52m P.M.	4 29	3 24	54 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 26	3 45	9 27	34	3 22						26							At Noon	No Tide.		124			
5	Th	H. Th. Asc. D.	4 28	3 30	54 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 27	3 59	10 8	39 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 30						27							0 25	0 50		125			
6	F	St. J. Evangelist	4 26	3 34	55	7 29	4 14	10 49	44 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 38						28							1 5	1 30		126			
7	S	Half-Quarter Day	4 24	3 39	55 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 30	4 30	11 31	49 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 46						29							1 45	2 0		127			
8	S	S. aft. Asc. DAY.	4 22	3 43	55 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 32	4 48	Afternoon	53 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 55						30							2 15	2 35		128			
9	M	Easter Term ends	4 21	3 46	56	7 34	5 9	0 59	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 2						1							2 50	3 5		129			
10	Tu	Length of night 8h 44m.	4 19	3 49	56 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 35	5 36	1 45	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 8						2							3 20	3 35		130			
11	W	Spica souths at 9h 58m P.M.	4 17	3 51	56 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 36	6 7	2 34	62 $\frac{1}{4}$	11 8						3							3 50	4 5		131			
12	Th	Venus in conjunction with Saturn at 9h 22m P.M.	4 16	3 52	56 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 38	6 47	3 25	63	Morning.						4							4 20	4 40		132			
13	F	Old May-Day	4 14	3 53	57	7 39	7 41	4 16	62 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 2						5							4 55	5 15		133			
14	S	Oxford Term ends	4 12	3 54	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 41	8 42	5 7	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 45						6							5 30	5 55		134			
15	S	WHIT SUNDAY	4 11	3 54	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 42	9 50	5 57	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 20						7							6 15	6 45		135			
16	M	Whit Monday	4 10	3 53	57 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 44	11 5	6 47	53 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 48						8							7 10	7 45		136			
17	Tu	Whit Tuesday	4 8	3 52	58	7 45	Afternoon	7 36	48 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 12						9							8 2	9 5		137			
18	W	Emb. Week. Oxf.	4 7	3 50	58	7 47	1 44	8 25	42 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 31						10							9 40	10 15		138			
19	Th	[Term begins	4 5	3 48	58 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 48	3 6	9 15	36	2 49						11							10 50	11 25		139			
20	F	Alpha Serpentis due south at 11h 43m P.M.	4 4	3 45	58 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 49	4 32	10 7	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 8						12							11 50	No Tide.		140			
21	S	Length of day 15h 48m	4 3	3 42	58 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 51	6 1	11 2	23 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 27						13							0 15	0 40		141			
22	S	TRIN. SUNDAY	4 1	3 38	59	7 52	7 31	Morning.	3	3 50						14							1 0	1 25		142			
23	M	[Camb. T. div.	4 0	3 33	59	7 53	8 58	0 1	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 20						15							1 50	2 15		143			
24	Tu	Qn. Vict. b. 1819	3 59	3 28	59 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 55	10 20	1 3	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	5 0						16							2 35	3 0		144			
25	W	Pr Helena b. 1846	3 58	3 23	59 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 57	11 24	2 7	13	5 53						17							3 25	3 45		145			
26	Th	Corpus Christi	3 57	3 17	59 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 58	Morning.	3 10	13	7 0						18							4 10	4 35		146			
27	F	Ven. Bede	3 56	3 11	59 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 59	0 14	4 10	14 $\frac{3}{4}$	8 12						19							5 0	5 30		147			
28	S	Day increased 8h 19m	3 55	3 6	60	8 0	0 50	5 6	18	9 29						20							5 55	6 20		148			
29	S	1st S. aft. TRIN.	3 54	2 56	60 $\frac{1}{4}$	8 1	1 15	5 56	22 $\frac{1}{4}$	10 46						21							6 50	7 15		149			
30	M	[Ch. II. r. 1660	3 53	2 48	60 $\frac{1}{4}$	8 2	1 36	6 43	27	Afternoon						22							7 50	8 25		150			
31	Tu	Arcturus souths at 9h 31m P.M.	3 52	2 40	60 $\frac{1}{4}$	8 3	1 52	7 26	32 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 11						23							9 5	9 40		151			





THE PLEASURES OF THE GARDEN.

THE enjoyment which we all derive from our occasional visits to the various botanical and public gardens that are growing up around our principal cities, no less than in the neighbourhood of the metropolis itself, is confessedly great. Yet even to the uninitiated in such matters it is scarcely less interesting to watch, in the genial month of May, the strenuous effort that Nature makes to show off to advantage, in our own less ambitious territories, the beautiful varieties of shrubs and flowers which time and care have made common amongst us.

Many of them, are far more beautiful, and were once as rare as the exotics we go so far to see and which are destined, in their turn, to descend into common life; yielding their "vantage ground" to newer and more *recherché* favourites. Where is the habitation, not actually within the walls of a town, that cannot boast a plot of ground at once the care and pride of its owner, and affording almost as much pleasure to the passer-by as to the actual cultivator. No sooner does spring come forth with its balmy airs and inspiring sunshine, than many a glimpse may be caught through the bowery palisades of the enclosures, of fair amateurs at their pleasant labours, busily trimming up bed and border, and doing full justice to the first fruits of the floral year. The garden itself may be limited to a few rods, or may extend over as many acres: each in its measure is delightful, and we cannot look upon the smallest space thus carefully tended, and wonder at the warm admiration expressed by foreigners for our domestic pleasure-grounds. Royal and public gardens of stately dimensions and high cultivation, are to be met with wherever a Royal residence exists; but our foreign neighbours speak truly in admitting that they are still centuries behind us in

the elegant decoration of that "foot of earth" that makes the modest homestead beautiful. It is only in our native land that the territory of the ladies habitually extends beyond the precincts of the house; with us the flower department is their own especial *apanage*: and hence the beauty and taste of its arrangement, and the superior skill and knowledge of our own fair countrywomen.

Who has not had the happiness, at one time or other, of being called upon to assist at a family council on the manner in which the new garden should be laid out; or smiled good-humouredly to himself at the suggestions dictated by the various tastes of different members of the conclave. One amiable ignoramus, enamoured of certain vague descriptions of the hanging gardens of Babylon, thinks nothing short of them could equal the stately "pleasaunces" of our ancestors, and grows eloquent upon broad terraces, formal walks, and shady alcoves; each dedicated to some divinity, "heavenly or terrene." He appears, however, quite to have overlooked the want of harmony between his favourite style and a mansion scarcely six months old. Another less ambitious copyist, fresh from Trentham Hall and its manifold attractions, and himself a lover of trim prettiness, demands a French *parterre*. It should be, he thinks, a *parterre* of embroidery, consisting of arabesque or scroll-work figures, with paths or groundwork scarcely less elaborate, formed of different coloured materials, as sand, gravel, powdered brick, or even pebbles. Failing this, he generously offers to compound for the "*parterre de compartimens*," where, reversing the general order of things, the accessory, turf, is chosen to exhibit as a principal; cut and arranged in geometrical forms, marked out by miniature shrubs, and surrounded by a second border of gay flower-beds. But the true lover of nature and taste here steps in and protests equally against both extremes; the space to be dealt with is not extensive enough for the one or sufficiently diminutive for the other. Finally, the matter is turned over to the ladies, who, wisely adapting the end to the means, resolve that the garden shall be

essentially English; that the beautiful green turf, which no climate save our own can mature, shall "shine conspicuous," and clothe the earth like nature in her full dress; and that groups of rich flower-beds shall show like bright jewels on its bosom.

No sooner are the preparatory operations of clearing and levelling performed, by subordinate hands, than an animated and busy season ensues. The boundary walls must be clothed with trees as speedily as possible, to veil the glaring limits of the domain, and hint of something like nature extending far beyond them. Trees and shrubs of rapid growth are hastily put in to serve a temporary purpose, but are intended to yield their places to the more *élite* of their brethren, when these shall have attained to sufficient maturity. The true artist can always see the flower in the bud, and admits, for a permanency, only those species that assimilate well together, or offer a striking contrast in form and colour. The lilac and laburnum may stand side by side, for the one is erect and bowery, the other fragile and drooping; whilst the mingling flowers present an harmonious contrast. The red hawthorn and white syringa may bloom in close proximity. The Judas-tree may unite its clusters of pink blossoms with the buds of the double cherry, and add beauty to each other as well as to the scene. The whole family of the rhododendron, or rose-bay, is welcome, from whatever clime it may come: America, Europe, Asia, even to the Himalaya Mountains, all contribute many varieties of this beautiful flowering shrub, which has been found more widely diffused than perhaps any other. The sumach, so ornamental in the autumn, when its leaves assume a beautiful shade of purplish red, and its berries show like coral; the daphne, with its fragrant flowers and poisonous fruit—so general a favourite, that the French call it *bois-joli*, the Italians the fair plant, the Germans silky bark, and the Spaniards the lady laurel; the hardy American azalea, and the graceful fuschia, with a host of others, are in due degree collected together to furnish a perfect whole.

Then the more essentially decorative features of the garden afford endless food for thought and discussion; as it is here the evidences of taste will be most perceptible. Can a fountain be introduced sparkling and dancing in the sunshine, for a centre ornament? or must we be contented with a bowery temple of the weeping ash, or a picturesque sun-dial wreathed with ivy? Shall the flower-beds, in outline, be fanciful or geometrical, few and far between, that the claims of the smooth lawn to admiration may not be interfered with, or so numerous as themselves to form the prominent features? On these important questions, as on most others, much may be said on both sides. At length number and form being decided, the nature of the plants which are to occupy the different beds comes under consideration. Shall each be filled with various flowers, or present a clustering mass of uniform colour? The latter style, as most fashionable, is selected, and, as far as may be, carried into execution; certain beds of pansies and hyacinths must exhibit varieties of shade, but at any rate the species is the same, so the unities are fortunately preserved. Due regard is of course paid here, as elsewhere, to favourable contrasts; the brilliant scarlet verberna, and the useful white petunia, form charming *vis-à-vis*: the delicate blue nemophila consorts equally well with the yellow calceolaria; the heliotrope and mignonette almost mingle their fragrance, and by virtue thereof find prominent places, notwithstanding their neutral tints. It is to be lamented that as the gayest birds have the hoarsest notes, so the sweetest flowers wear the saddest livery; but there is certainly no lack of brilliancy in the general effect, when lobelias, salvias, pelargoniums, tigredas, and other gay floral treasures are judiciously distributed.

Red roses, used to praises long,
Contented with the poet's song—
The nightingale's being over;
And lilies white, prepar'd to touch
The whitest thought, nor soil it much,
Of dreamer turned to lover.

Deep violets are liken'd to
The kindest eyes that look on you,
Without a thought disloyal;
And cactuses a queen might don,
If weary of a golden crown,
And still appear as royal.

Pansies for ladies all. I wis
That none who wear such brooches miss
A jewel in the mirror;
And tulips, children love to stretch
Their fingers down, to feel in each
It's beauty's secret nearer.

Love's language may be talk'd with these—
To work out choicest sentences
No blossoms can be metter;
And, such being used in Eastern bowers,
Young maids may wonder if the flowers
Or meanings be the sweeter.*

No sooner is the attention lavished on the garden rewarded by some faint promise of future perfection, than its owners become sensible of the necessity for resting-places, whence its budding beauties can be admired with ease and comfort. All that fantastic family of garden seats, of which gigantic mushrooms and china sofas may be cited as examples, are repudiated by the amateur of taste; mushrooms have been too long consecrated to the fairies, to serve with propriety as lounges for any ladies of a less ethereal character; porcelain seats are devoted by our preconceived prejudices to the sole use of the mandarins of the Celestial Empire, and never look at home except in a Chinese garden, or on the china plate where we first made their acquaintance. But against

the root-house, moss-house, or rustic seat, covered or uncovered, no such objection can be raised; they are indigenous to the country, and in harmony with the scene around. During the warm days of summer, it may be, indeed, decided that nothing can be so delightful as to repose beneath some weeping birch, whose veil-like branches, stirred by every breath, sweep the ground around us. But such trees are, unfortunately, not always to be met with; and some cool nook, to serve as shelter from the fervour of a midsummer's sun, becomes an absolute necessity. The design is sketched out. If for a root-house, fantastic and massive-looking roots of trees are pressed into the service; a lighter style characterises the wood-house, formed of the unbarked branches of the pine, which, even in decay, gives forth its sweet resinous odour; the alcove-like moss-house is also a favourite with those who have no insuperable objection to insects. Each and all have charms for their fair architects, who act not infrequently as builders also, and will, no doubt, prove the scenes of many pleasant reminiscences of busy, by-gone hours.

Whatever may be the interest felt by the moderately enthusiastic amateur in watching the rise and progress of the garden generally, it is certainly equalled by that of the flower fancier, who, having fixed his or her affections on some individual species, awaits the result of the many experiments which are intended ultimately to produce a completely perfect flower of its kind. Earth, air, fire, and water are called upon to minister in due proportion to the well-being of the plant; and many are the dangers and contingencies to be dreaded, and, if possible, guarded against. Insects too small to be seen by the naked eye may come in battalions, "feed on it's damask cheek," and destroy it. A night too cold or a day too warm, at a particular stage, may check or force its delicate nature too much, and the care of months may be thrown away. But when a really perfect whole is produced—a tulip, for instance, with cup-shaped flower, well rounded at the base, the inside ground colour, clear and bright in the centre, with all the marks sharp and distinct—who but a genuine *connoisseur* can fully appreciate the delight of the triumph? What signify now the constant care and attention which have been necessary to induce it to "break" into such clear and brilliant colours? Grown at one time in soil poor and arid, and allowed scarcely enough water to keep it alive, then suddenly transferred to the richest mould, abounding in food and moisture; no trouble has been spared; but look at the result, and say if the cost transcend such rich reward. The owner at least feels himself amply repaid for all his watchful anxiety.

Nor are the pleasures of the garden strictly confined within its limits; additions and improvements are always going on, which require the amateur to wander far afield. The shrubbery demands the heath and broom from the commons; the rock-work needs the presence of certain wild flowers to spring up between the rugged flints, and hide its masonry. What pleasant days are thus consumed during the early spring in searching among the tangled woods for the shy plants that nestle there—the delicate wood-sorrel, the primrose, lily of the valley, nest orchis, mouse-ear, and a thousand others. But, though every care be taken to give them shade, and reconcile them to their new homes, unhappily, they seldom take kindly to the change, and fresh specimens are in constant requisition. New wants lead to new discoveries, and novel phases of enjoyment spring from sources little thought of by the uninitiated.

To how many persons, and under what varying circumstances, has the garden in all ages afforded almost unmixed delight. Not to revert to that of Eden, and the stately towers of Solomon, one sect of the Greek philosophers found its best school beneath its shades. Poets of all ages have sung its praises, and not a few have been indebted to it for their best inspirations. Petrarch, in one of his letters, lamenting the irruption [of the river Sorgue], writes, "The Muses and the Naiads still battle for the garden I love so well." And then among the moderns, who cannot fancy the scene of Dryden's "Flower and the Leaf;" or imagine Pope writing his "Rape of the Lock" beneath the shade of his grotto at Twickenham; his eyes resting dreamily on the silent waters of the Thames, seeming to gaze, but seeing nothing but the sweet picture his fancy had conjured up to people its shores?

To a garden and its multiplied employments are we probably indebted for much of the poetry of Cowper. In its light labour, so graphically described by himself, was to be found the exercise and excitement necessary to keep in something like health his sensitive nature. How many pilgrim feet (especially from the Far West) have sought as a shrine the garden he sang so well, and felt the ground sacred that his hand had tilled, though little beside the bare locality remained to whisper of its whereabouts.

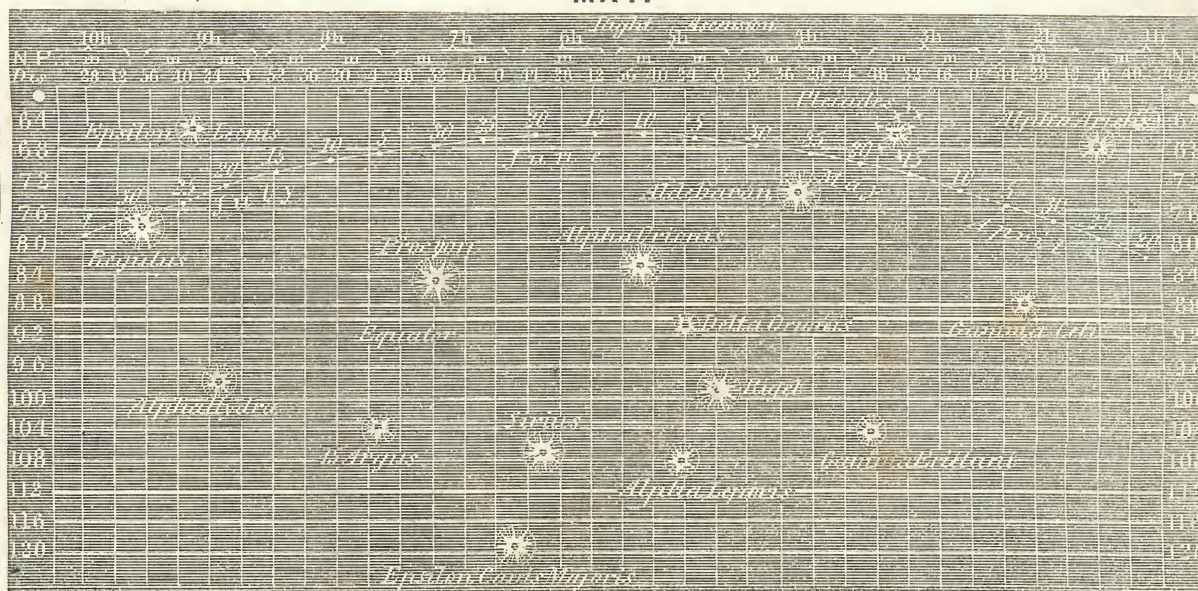
Men, too, made of far "sterner stuff" have been scarcely less alive to the influence of a garden. How gratefully does Johnson record the days of pleasant labour he had spent in the arbour at Streatham. The most pathetic page of Gibbon is the one in which he describes the sensations he experienced in his summer-house at midnight, when he wrote the last line of his great work on ages and empires long passed away. He describes the feelings with which he paced the alleys of his garden that night, under a cloudless moon, and how his happiness had been associated with that labour, and had been affected by its termination.

Again, to the sick and the sorrowful how often has the garden been felt as a "city of refuge," affording at once solace and repose; for, poor as it may seem to the healthy and the happy as a substitute for the broad face of nature, the subdued in spirit have often found within its narrow limit space and verge enough for the gratitude such brief glimpses of nature has called forth. The associations connected with gardens also are almost always pleasant ones, and sometimes may be counted holy, for many have found in them their best oratories.

The calm retreat, the silent shade
With prayer and praise agree,
And seem by THY sweet bounty made
For those who worship Thee.

* MRS. BARRETT BROWNING.

MAY.



Scale 24 degrees to one inch.

THE PATH OF VENUS FROM APRIL 20 TO AUGUST 4, 1853.

THE SUN is situated north of the Equator, and is moving northward. On the 21st, at 4h. 48m. A.M., he passes from the sign Taurus (the Bull) to that of Gemini (the Twins), having been in the former sign 31 days and 11 minutes. On the 1st day his distance from the Earth is 95,794,300 miles, which increases to 96,368,600 miles by the last day. At the beginning of the month he rises near the E.N.E., and sets near the W.N.W.; and towards the end of the month, near the N.E. by N. and N.W. by N. The times of his rising, setting, and setting, in ordinary clock time, together with his angular distance at his greatest altitude, are given daily in the calendar pages.

On the 3rd the Moon is in the constellation Pisces; on the 4th, in Cetus; on the 5th, in Pisces; on the 6th, in Cetus again; skirting the boundaries of Cetus and Aries, she enters Taurus on the 8th; passes into Gemini on the 11th; into Cancer on the 13th; and into Leo on the 15th. On the 17th she passes into Virgo; on the 21st, into Libra; on the 22nd, into Scorpio; on the 23rd, into Ophiuchus; on the 24th, into Sagittarius; on the 26th, into Capricornus; and on the 28th, into Aquarius. On the 30th she enters into Pisces; and on the 31st is in Cetus.

She is above the horizon when the Sun is below, during the morning hours, after the 19th; and during the night hours from the 10th to the 23rd.

She crosses the Equator, going northward, on the 5th; reaches her extreme north declination on the 12th; crosses the Equator on the 19th; is at her extreme south declination on the 25th; and is a little S. of the Equator on the last day.

She is near Mercury on the 5th, Mars on the 6th, Uranus and Venus on the 7th, Saturn on the 8th, and Jupiter on the 24th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Pisces till the 12th; in that of Cetus till the 18th; in Aries till the 30th; and in Taurus to the end of the month. He rises before the Sun on the 1st, at 4h. 3m.; on the 15th, at 3h. 35m.; and on the last day, at 3h. 18m.; being about half an hour before the Sun. He sets before the Sun throughout the month, and is not favourably situated for observation. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 5th, Mars on the 17th, Uranus on the 22nd, Saturn on the 30th, and at his greatest western elongation on the 8th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in June.

VENUS is in the constellation Aries till the 13th, and in Taurus to the end of the month. She rises and sets very nearly at the same times as the Sun throughout the month, and is in superior conjunction with him on the 13th; she is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 7th, and Saturn on the 12th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the above diagram.

MARS is in the constellation Pisces till the 10th; in Cetus till the 14th, and in Aries to the end of the month. He rises on the 1st at 3h. 59m. A.M., on the 15th at 3h. 23h. A.M., and on the last day at 2h. 42m. A.M., near the E. by N. at the beginning, and the E.N.E. towards the end of the month. He sets before the Sun. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 6th, Mercury on the 17th, and Uranus on the 27th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in April.

JUPITER is in the constellation Ophiuchus throughout the month. He is visible throughout the greater part of the night, rising on the 1st at 10h. 55m. P.M., on the 15th at 9h. 55m. P.M., and on the last day at 8h. 44m. P.M., near the S.E. by E. point of the horizon. He is moving westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 24th; he souths at an altitude of 15° 48' on the 1st, increasing to 15° 56' by the last day. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in September.

SATURN is in the constellation Aries till the 15th, and in that of Taurus from the 16th. He sets on the 1st, at 8h. 3m. P.M., and with the Sun on the 11th. He rises with the Sun on the 17th, and 32m. before him on the last day; rising near the E.N.E., and setting near the W.S.W. points of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars, is near the Moon on the 8th, Venus on the 12th, and Mercury on the 30th; in conjunction with the Sun on the 12th. At about the middle of the month he souths at an altitude of 54°. Throughout the month he is badly situated for observation. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in January.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He rises on the 1st, at 4m. before the Sun, and on the last day at 2h. 38m. A.M., near the E.N.E.

(Continued on page 52.)

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.						JUPITER'S SATELLITES.				OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.				
	Mercury.	Venus.	Mars.	Jupiter.	Saturn.	Uranus.	Eclipses of				Names of the Stars.	Magni- tude.	Times of disappear- ance & re-appear- ance of the Star.	At which limb of the Moon.	Between what Latitudes visible.
	Morning.	Morning.	Morning.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	1st Satellite.	2nd Satellite.	3rd Satellite.	4th Satellite.					
1	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	Disappear.	Disappear.	Disappear.	Disappear.	95 Virginis	6	p. h. m.	Dark Bright	5° S. to 80° N.
6	10 21	11 50	10 35	2 36	0 35	11 43	3 4 6 A.M.	13 0 20 A.M.	20 2 54 A.M.				20 8 29 P.M.		
11	10 20	11 54	10 30	2 15	Morning.	11 11	12 0 29 A.M.	20 2 54 A.M.					20 9 35 P.M.		
16	10 22	11 59	10 24	1 53	11 43	10 53	19 2 23 A.M.								
21	10 23	Afternoon	10 19	1 31	11 26	10 34	27 10 45 P.M.	6 2 31 A.M.			Kappa Virginis	4	21 0 11 A.M.	Dark Bright	15° N. to 80° N.
26	10 40	0 11	10 14	1 9	11 9	10 16							21 1 17 A.M.		
31	10 56	0 18	10 8	0 47	10 52	9 57					Beta Scorpii	2	22 8 31 P.M.	Full Moon	5° S. to 70° N.
							5 1 36 A.M. R.	2nd Satellite.					22 9 30 P.M.		
							28 1 18 A.M. R.	6 1 59 A.M. R.							

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON, And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee) or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth in each Lunation.

	1h.	7m.	85° 48'	2h. 27m.	76° 24'	1h. 21m.	82° 17'	17h. 33m.	112° 43'	3h. 12m.	74° 11'	2h. 26m.	75° 59'
NEW MOON ..	1	1h. 7m.	85° 48'	2h. 27m.	76° 24'	1h. 21m.	82° 17'	17h. 33m.	112° 43'	3h. 12m.	74° 11'	2h. 26m.	75° 59'
FIRST QUARTER ..	6	1 21	84 47	2 51	74 22	1 35	80 51	17 31	112 43	3 14	74 0	2 27	75 54
FULL MOON ..	11	1 40	83 1	3 16	72 29	1 49	79 27	17 30	112 42	3 17	73 50	2 28	75 48
LAST QUARTER ..	16	2 4	80 40	3 36	71 7	2 3	78 7	17 28	112 40	3 20	73 38	2 29	75 43
APOGEE ..	21	2 31	77 52	4 1	69 36	2 18	76 49	17 25	112 39	3 23	73 28	2 30	75 38
PERIGEE ..	26	3 3	74 48	4 27	68 19	2 32	75 35	17 23	112 37	3 25	73 18	2 31	75 33
	31	3 39	71 40	4 53	67 17	2 46	74 25	17 20	112 35	3 28	73 9	2 32	75 28

RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS WHEN PASSING THE MERIDIAN.

Days of the Month.	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.	
	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.
1	1h. 7m.	85° 48'	2h. 27m.	76° 24'	1h. 21m.	82° 17'	17h. 33m.	112° 43'	3h. 12m.	74° 11'	2h. 26m.	75° 59'
6	1 21	84 47	2 51	74 22	1 35	80 51	17 31	112 43	3 14	74 0	2 27	75 54
11	1 40	83 1	3 16	72 29	1 49	79 27	17 30	112 42	3 17	73 50	2 28	75 48
16	2 4	80 40	3 36	71 7	2 3	78 7	17 28	112 40	3 20	73 38	2 29	75 43
21	2 31	77 52	4 1	69 36	2 18	76 49	17 25	112 39	3 23	73 28	2 30	75 38
26	3 3	74 48	4 27	68 19	2 32	75 35	17 23	112 37	3 25	73 18	2 31	75 33
31	3 39	71 40	4 53	67 17	2 46	74 25	17 20	112 35	3 28	73 9	2 32	75 28

LUNAR

Day of Month	Day of Week	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, FES- TIVALS, &c.	SUN.					MOON.					PURATION OF MOONLIGHT.												HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.				Day of the Year	
			SOUTHS.					SOUTHS.					Before Sunrise.				Moon's Age.	After Sunset.				At London Bridge.								
			Rises.	Be'or 12 o'Clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Be'or 12 o'Clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Morning.	Morning.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Afternoon	0	O'Clock.	1	2	3	4	Moon's Age.	8	O'Clock.	9	10	11	12		Morning.	Afternoon
1	W	<i>Nicomede</i>	3 51	2 31	60 ¹ / ₂	8 4	2 9	8 8	37 ¹ / ₂	2 22																				152
2	Th	Alpha Serpentis souths at 10h 52m p.m.	3 50	2 22	60 ¹ / ₂	8 5	2 22	8 49	42 ¹ / ₂	3 29																				153
3	F	Uranus in conjunction with the Moon at 5h 56m p.m.	3 50	2 12	60 ¹ / ₂	8 6	2 38	9 30	47 ¹ / ₂	4 37																				154
4	S	Saturn in conjunction with the Moon at 11h 52m p.m.	3 49	2 26	61	8 7	2 54	10 12	52 ¹ / ₂	5 45																				155
5	S	2ND S. aft. TRIN.	3 49	1 52	61	8 8	3 14	10 56	56 ¹ / ₂	6 52																				156
6	M	Sun eclipsed, invisible at Greenwich	3 48	1 41	61 ¹ / ₂	8 9	3 39	11 43	59 ¹ / ₂	7 58																				157
7	T	Mercury in ascending node at 5h 22m p.m.	3 47	1 30	61	8 10	4 8	Afternoon	61 ¹ / ₂	9 1																				158
8	W	Length of night 7h 36m	3 47	1 19	61 ¹ / ₂	8 11	4 48	1 21	62	9 59																				159
9	Th	Eta Bootis souths at 5h 35m p.m.	3 46	1 7	61 ¹ / ₂	8 12	5 35	2 12	62 ¹ / ₂	10 45																				160
10	F	Arcturus souths 8h 53m p.m.	3 46	0 56	61 ¹ / ₂	8 12	6 34	3 46	1 ¹ / ₂	11 23																				161
11	S	St. Barnabas.	3 45	0 44	61 ¹ / ₂	8 13	7 41	3 54	58 ¹ / ₂	11 53																				162
12	S	3RD S. aft. TRIN.	3 45	0 31	61 ¹ / ₂	8 14	8 52	4 43	54 ¹ / ₂	Morning.																				163
13	M	Trin. Term ends.	3 45	0 19	61 ¹ / ₂	8 15	10 8	5 31	50 ¹ / ₂	0 16																				164
14	Tu	Antares souths at 10h 47m p.m.	3 45	0 6	61 ¹ / ₂	8 16	11 25	6 18	44 ¹ / ₂	0 36																				165
15	W	Length of day 16h 32m	3 44	After 12 o'clock.	61 ¹ / ₂	8 16	Afternoon	7 6	38 ¹ / ₂	0 54																				166
16	Th	Alpha Libæ souths at 9h 2m p.m.	3 44	0 19	61 ¹ / ₂	8 16	2 5	7 55	32 ¹ / ₂	1 12																				167
17	F	St. Alban	3 44	0 32	62	8 16	3 30	8 47	26 ¹ / ₂	1 31																				168
18	S	Mars in conjunction with Saturn at 1h 44m p.m.	3 44	0 44	62	8 17	4 57	9 42	31	1 50																				169
19	S	4TH S. aft. TRIN.	3 44	0 57	62	8 18	6 27	10 42	16 ¹ / ₂	2 16																				170
20	M	Q. Vic. Acc. 1837	3 44	1 10	62	8 18	7 52	11 45		2 49																				171
21	Tu	Q. c. Proc.	3 44	1 23	62	8 18	9 4	Morning.	13 ³ / ₄	3 35																				172
22	W	Mercury greatest Hel. Lat. N. at 6h 12m p.m.	3 45	1 36	62	8 19	10 3	0 49	12 ¹ / ₂	4 34																				173
23	Th	Antares due south at 10h 12m p.m.	3 45	1 49	62	8 19	10 45	1 53	13 ³ / ₄	5 46																				174
24	F	St. John Baptist.	3 45	2 2	62	8 19	11 17	2 52	16 ¹ / ₂	7 6																				175
25	S	[Midsum. Day	3 46	2 14	62	8 18	11 39	3 47	20 ¹ / ₂	8 26																				176
26	S	5TH S. aft. TRIN.	3 46	2 27	61 ¹ / ₂	8 18	11 59	4 37	25	9 44																				177
27	M	Alpha Ophiuchi due south at 1h 4m p.m.	3 46	2 39	61 ¹ / ₂	8 18	Morning.	5 22	30 ¹ / ₂	10 57																				178
28	Tu	Q. Vic. cro. 1838	3 47	2 52	61 ¹ / ₂	8 18	0 14	6 6	35 ¹ / ₂	Afternoon																				179
29	W	St. Peter.	3 48	3 46	1 ¹ / ₂	8 18	0 30	6 47	40 ¹ / ₂	1 19																				180
30	Th	Venus in Periheli at 6h 0m A.M.	3 49	3 16	61 ¹ / ₂	8 18	0 44	7 28	46	2 26																				181





LIFE IN THE PARKS.

UCH are the ingenious researches of modern chemists, that we may now revel in our salt-water-bath at Brixton, almost as easily as at Brighton; may drink the Salzbrunnen in our own bed-rooms; and keep Carlsbad and Marienbad bottled up in bins in our own cellars. Delcroix will enable us to enjoy the sweet perfume of jasmine and violet all the year round; and, thanks to Farina, the fragrant herbage of Cologne has become as accessible to us as the roses of Covent-garden. Yet how readily

would we resign all these advantages to that subtle alchemist who should enable us, here in our smoky London homes, to bathe for one half hour each morning in the bracing, healthy air of the country; to drink in its pure breezes and inhale the fragrant perfume of its dewy grass. Each year seems to shut them out from us more completely, as houses upon houses "immeasurably spread seem lengthening as we go" in every direction; until green fields promise soon to be as completely out of ken to the pent-up inhabitant of the metropolis, as its streets, with all their wonders, were, some hundred years ago, to his country forefathers.

In this emergency, the few green enclosures which have been preserved from the encroachments of brick and mortar, acquire a value in our eyes to which it is to be feared their intrinsic merits give them but slender claim. They are the only refreshing spots in the great wilderness of smoke and dirt. If the trees be somewhat bare and stunted, and the grass present a somewhat arid and dusty appearance, they are trees and it is grass notwithstanding; and if the air be wanting somewhat in the pure inspiring oxygen that invigorates us in the country, it is heaven itself to the hot and smoky atmosphere of the neighbour-

ing streets. The Londoner, therefore, prizes his Parks as though they were fresh and fair as Arcadia itself.

They serve him with a hint
That Nature lives. That sight-refracting green
Is still the livery she delights to wear,
Though sickly sample of the exuberant whole.

Of all these play-grounds of the Town, Hyde Park is unquestionably the most universally attractive. It is the Royal Exchange of Fashion—Pleasure's place of business—and laboriously does she work there. It is a Social Republic, where peer meets *parvenu* in amicable equality, Brompton takes the wall of Belgravia, and Mincing-lane jostles May Fair.

C'est tout justement la Cour du Roi Petaud.

If we turn our steps within its precincts late on a sunny afternoon, in the month of June, what a busy, lively, motley scene we shall find spread out before us. Round the Apsley House gates a small crowd is patiently awaiting the expiration of the twenty minutes which will procure them a glimpse of Royalty on its way home from its afternoon drive. Carriage after carriage, horseman after horseman, is passing slowly out, without, however, causing any sensible diminution in the crowds of pleasure-seekers within. The Serpentine is dotted here and there with boats, and every now and then a bar or two of "Don Pasquale" is borne to us across it, from the band in Kensington Gardens. The broad walk along its banks—the loose gravel of which ever suggests to us a sympathising fellow-feeling with the pilgrim who did not boil his peas—presents two compact streams of well-dressed, well-mannered idlers, enjoying the double gratification of seeing and being seen; whilst the drive which it borders exhibits an unbroken circle of vehicles of every description. There goes an elaborate carriage, the harness studded with crests and arms that might puzzle the Herald's College, plastered on every panel; showy horses, showy hammercloth, showy footmen behind, showy bonnets

within, and pretence everywhere. "Stylish turn-out, that!" observes, approvingly, to a friend, a gentleman with particoloured legs and a short stick, looking like Mr. Harley in *Touchstone*, who is leaning gracefully over the rails beside us—"Stylish turn out, that!" We do not feel at liberty to controvert the position, but we are involuntarily reminded of Mr. Burchell and the "high-life and high-lived company" of Miss Carolina Wilhelmina Amelia Skeggs. There passes a dark green barouche, with its fresh chintz summer lining, small crossed letters on the door-panel—the eyes must be good to detect the strawberry leaves above, though there they are—and quiet, well-appointed servants and cattle. The affair is not very modern, nor very new; but the perfect congruity of every detail, and its unpretending *ensemble*, speak clearly of ascertained position and Grosvenor-square. Now, perhaps, comes the neat dog-cart, black picked out with drab, of an "Oxford man," whose delight it is "to collect the Olympic dust with his chariot-wheels"—the only collections from Olympus which, it is to be feared, he is ever likely to accomplish; the ponderous "leathern conveniency" of Dowagerhood and Upper Gloucester-place; broughams, with crimson curtains, velling primrose bonnets; and sober, useful-looking charlots, suggestive of medical notabilities and Saville-row.

We are longing all this time to know something of the names and histories of the *dramatis persone* before us, in which, unhappily, our own personal acquaintance with the *beau monde* affords us but little aid. Fortunately, our friend in the bi-coloured continuations, who is just ahead of us, conveying an agreeable impression of recent cigars, appears to know everybody; and the unobtruded tone in which he conveys his information to his less erudite neighbour, appears to relieve us from any fear of indiseretion in availing ourselves of his universal knowledge. He points out eminent peers, and knows how much a-year they have to spend, independently of mortgages; distinguished turf men, and their losses on the last Derby; M.P.s whom he has met, and guardsmen with whom he is in the habit of messing. In regard to the ladies, too, he appears equally well informed, and imparts much useful and even confidential information respecting them—their residences, the fortunes and prospects of those who have any, and the domestic troubles of others. We are bewildered by the universality of his knowledge, which we can only account for by supposing him to be either a Lord in Waiting or the Wandering Jew; Alexis, or Mr. Inspector Pearce on special duty in the costume of aristocracy.

It is getting late as we cross the Serpentine-bridge, but Rotten-row is still full, and its various occupants are enjoying its advantages more or less characteristically, as the case may be—gravely, like the old gentleman on the gray cob, who is taking it medicinally; industriously, like the middle-aged lady, who is trotting down twelve stone into eight-and-a-half; carefully, like the horse-doctor, who is exercising one of his patients; or, recklessly, like the worthy who owes his mount to a too-confiding friend. Now, a youthful *débutante* is making her first essay in public, under the protection of an ancient groom, who watches her as tenderly as though he were her father himself, for whom, indeed, he may, some thirty years ago, have performed a similar service; now an ardent cavalier is rendering himself an object of interest to the park-keepers by pressing his trot into a gallop; there canters a belle, well appointed, well mounted, testing the mettle of a party of young-gentlemen satellites, each of whom probably finds the others somewhat in the way. It is to be seen at a glance that there is blood in the rider as well as in the horse: she rides—as she dances, doubtless, or plays, or does anything—gracefully, easily, as a matter of course, confident in herself and careless of display. There is a marked distinction between her and the amazon in black velvet who follows. The latter rides admirably, it is true; sits her horse, sixteen hands high, with a good deal of blood, as though it were her natural seat; she needs no aid from groom or cavalier, and has neither; but as she passes, at a half canter, a doubt rises in our mind whether a lady may not ride even too well, or seem to do so—whether Beauty should be quite so intimately associated in our minds with the Beast; in short, whether there is not about her rather too much of the air of "*Venus en bottes*." There our young friend, Mr. Foker—who could mistake him?—apparelled in sumptuous raiment, is trotting off the effects of last night's supper-party; and our still older acquaintance, Mr. Titmouse, his glass in his eye, is walking a dubious-looking quadruped slowly and sedately along, for she is but the acquaintance of an hour, with whom he is apprehensive of taking liberties. As the evening draws on, the drive gradually thins, and we begin to wend our way homewards. We hail an omnibus, and, as we are entering, what is our astonishment to behold our *arbitrer elegantiarum* of the Park, the confidant of the Peerage, the *enfant gâté* of the female aristocracy of his country; who, having exchanged his *paille* gloves for Berlin, is contentedly smoking a cigar on the knife-board. He gets down at Albert-cottages, and we see him no more.

If Hyde Park be the most popular, St. James's is unquestionably the most exclusive. It belongs to that inner circle of the great Maelstrom which is free from the changes and eddies which disturb its outer revolutions. It is not fashionable, for it is above fashion. Every carriage that crosses it must possess some claim which mere rank or even money cannot purchase, ere it can pass the well-protected portals of the Horse Guards; and the very park-keeper who retails ginger-beer to the nursemaids, has held Cabinet Ministers in his arms at the cradle. Venice-like, it is a very region of palaces: there is Buckingham House, with its innumerable windows, looking like a vast cotton-mill in a holiday dress; St. James's, with its heavy red brick turrets and dull quadrangles, full of memories of Horace Walpole, oval-backed chairs, convex mirrors, and Miss Burney. There is Whitehall, but little changed from the day when be-ringed beauties and be-ribboned beaux took boat at its stairs, amidst the water-lilies of the Thames; for excursions to the suburban ruralities of Fox Hall. On the site of those

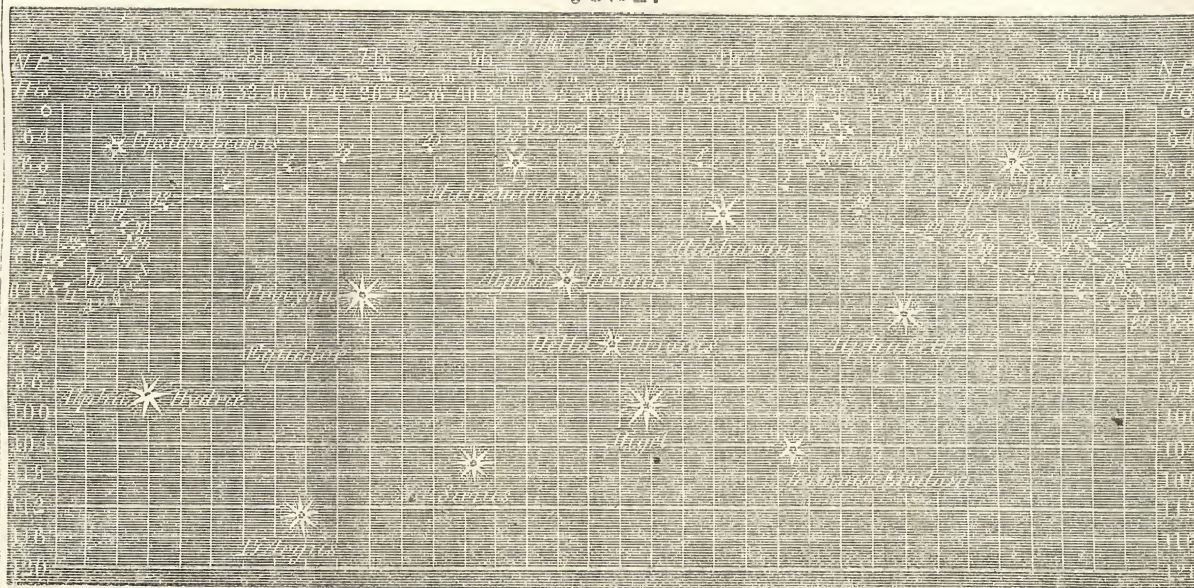
princely mansions to the north stood the palace and gardens of Carlton House. There George "le Débonaire" held court and revel; there Cannon fired his reverend jests; and Alvanley had audience meet for his most finished coxmoebies; there Walter Scott, as he tells us, "Hip, hip, hurraed! with the rest," at the Regent's toast of The Unknown Author of "Waverley;" and Mr. Brummell benefited his race by his first conceptions of the valuable capacities of starch. Age of war without, and a most revolution within—of faction in the senate and vice in the palace—of pudding neckcloths and Cossack trousers. Of all its revelry and all its wit, of all its intrigue and all its scandal, no vestige now remains, save a name, to tell of its whereabouts; and the passer-by, if he stays his steps at all, stops, like Defoe on the site of the pest-pit, to thank God for a purer atmosphere and healthier times. Yet here still rules the Court of St. James. Whatever influence St. George may have exercised in the times when his name was a trumpet-sound to morris England, certain it is that now he is of the past: save in connexion with a fashionable marriage or a light sovereign, we know him no more. St. James is now Britannia's patron saint; and it is with his name that she is associated with every quarter of the globe. That row of buildings at the eastern end of St. James's Park—some old, some modern, some ugly, some attractive—are the great laboratories of the country—the *ateliers nationaux* of England—the workshops where are continually turning the innumerable wheels that keep in orderly motion the great machine of the State. From them the servants of its Crown watch with unsleeping eye the workings of home influences and foreign intrigue, and govern dependencies upon which the sun never sets. From that dull archway her captains keep unremitting ward over her safety; and from yon heavy building adjacent has thundered the cannon which protect her shores.

The past has here abundant associations, as well as the present. Along the broad pathway to the north, on a gloomy morning in January, between rows of frowning facers, a King without a throne, a Monarch with less power than the meanest beggar in his realm, was setting forth on his last walk from St. James's Palace, to expiate in his own person the vices of a worn-out system; and exchange an earthly crown for the "crown incorruptible" on the scaffold in front of the palace that had been the home of his pride. On the very same path—so short a time afterwards as in the perspective of time to be hardly perceptible—his son might have been seen awakening the obsequious smiles of surrounding bystanders, while exchanging *mauvaises plaisanteries* with a mistress, and gambling away as lightly as he came by them the spoils of Dunkirk. Poetry, too, here has its memories: along the Birdeage-walk, on the south side of the Park, the "blind man eloquent" has—how often!—stepped out from his garden in Petty France, to muse on the Paradise he described so well.

Patrols of horse and foot are stationed from Sadler's Wells gate along the New-road to Tottenham-court turnpike, between the hours of eight and eleven, for the protection of the nobility and gentry." Such was the satisfactory announcement which saluted the eyes of the patrons of the drama, in the play-bills of Sadler's Wells Theatre, in June, 1783. Tottenham-court turnpike was evidently, at that time, the N.W. boundary of metropolitan civilisation, the *ultima thule*, in that direction, of London fashionable life. If the hedgerows and country lanes beyond it, contained, by chance, any rustic varieties of Thespis, they were apparently such only as might fairly be left to take care of themselves, humble suburban, for whose safety the dramatic authorities felt in no way called upon to make provision.

How difficult it is, in June, 1853, as we cross that very New-road, from Portland-place to the enclosures of the Regent's Park, to realise in the well-kept gardens and minarets of Sussex-place, and the walks "strictly preserved" of the Inner Circle, the narrow roads and dark lanes where, but seventy years ago, the only safeguard of the benighted traveller against the highwayman and the footpad was in the fleetness of his horse or the strength of his arm.

The Regent's Park, it must be admitted, possesses nothing of the *prestige* which attaches to its rivals. It has no associations with the past like St. James's, for its birth is within the memory of most of us; it can raise no claim to fashion, like Hyde Park, for, save on the day of a *fête* at the Botanical Gardens, Belgravia knows not of its existence. But its life, nevertheless, is not without characteristics of its own. Though surrounded by the mansions of the higher middle classes, they seem to have but few sympathies with it. It is by prescriptive custom the park of the people. Here on a fine Sunday (the "life" of the Regent's Park is essentially a Sabbath one), how many a happy group shall we find of our brethren and sisters of the workshop and the show-room. They are chiefly from the extreme ends of town, for their main object has been to get, on this their unfrequent holiday, as far away as possible from the familiar objects of their everyday existence. Here are artisans from Clerkenwell and Whitechapel, searching, baby in arm and dinner in hand, for a green spot where to enjoy the luxury of their Sunday newspaper in the pure fresh air their daily life has made so precious to them. Again, specimens of mortality, half-man, half-boy, in parties, for they are always gregarious, reciprocating wondrous legends of pot terriers and much-prized meerschams; neatly-dressed damsels, and swains to them appertaining in evening costume and white waistcoats, wending their weary, but contented way to "the green delights" of Hampstead Heath. What projects are in course of formation, could we but know them, what acquaintanceships are being established, and what pleasant recollections are being stored up for future times in that broad walk, and the green pastures to the left. Bright, indeed, might be the memory of that day to us all, whether idlers in Hyde Park or dreamers in St. James's, which should enable us to extract enjoyment from the simple elements which are sufficient to constitute happiness to many a Sunday holiday-maker in the Regent's Park!



THE PATH OF MERCURY FROM MARCH 20 TILL SEPTEMBER 5, 1853.

MERCURY is in the constellation Taurus till the 16th, in Gemini till the 30th.

JUPITER is in the constellation Ophiuchus throughout the month. He is visible throughout the night; rising on the 1st at 8h. 39m. P.M.; on the 15th at 7h. 36m. P.M.; and at 6h. 29m. P.M. on the last day, near the S.E. by E. point of the horizon. He sets after sunrise till the 13th, on which day the planet sets at the time of the Sun rising, and he sets before sunrise from the 14th. He is moving westward among the stars; is near the Moon on the

(Continued on page 52.)

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHW, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.						JUPITER'S SATELLITES.						OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.									
	Mercury.		Venus.		Mars.		Jupiter.		Saturn.		Uranus.											
	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.										
	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.										
1	11 0	0 19	10 7	0 43	10 49	9 53							Names of the Stars.	Magni- tude.	Times of disappear- ance & re-appear- ance of the Star.	At which limb of the Moon.	Between what Latitudes visible.					
6	11 22	0 26	10 2	0 20	10 31	9 34																
11	11 48	0 33	9 57	Afternoon	10 14	9 16																
16	Afternoon	0 40	9 52	11 31	9 57	8 57																
21	0 43	0 47	9 47	11 9	9 40	8 38							Gamma Cancri	4 {	D. H. M. 10 10 55 P.M. 10 11 19 P.M.	Dark Bright	North of 12° N.					
26	1 7	0 54	9 42	10 46	9 22	8 19																
30	1 22	1 0	9 38	10 29	9 8	8 4																
													Eclipses of									
													1st Satellite.					2nd Satellite.				
													Dis D. Re-ap R.					Disp. and Re-ap.				
													D. H. M. A. M. D.					D. H. M. A. M. D.				
													4 0 40 A.M. D.					6 9 19 P.M.				
													12 11 13 P.M. R.					14 2 30 A.M.				
													20 1 8 A.M. R.									
													28 9 31 P.M. R.									
													Occultations of									
													11 2 31 A.M. D.					2nd Satellite.				
													19 10 42 P.M. D.					7 0 8 A.M. R.				
													27 0 26 P.M. D.					13 11 41 P.M. D.				

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON.						Days of the Month.	RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS WHEN PASSING THE MERIDIAN											
							MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.	
							Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.
NEW MOON	..	6d.	8h.	3m.	P.M.	1	3h. 47m	71° 3'	4h. 58m	67° 7'	2h. 49m	74° 11'	17h. 20m	112° 55'	3h. 28m	73° 7'	2h. 32m	75° 27'
FIRST QUARTER	14	3	27	P.M.	6	4 30	68 14	5 25	66 24	3 4	73 6	17 17	112 23	3 31	72 50	2 33	75 28	
FULL MOON	..	21	6	11	A.M.	11	5 16	66 8	5 52	65 59	3 18	72 6	17 14	112 30	3 33	72 58	2 34	75 12
LAST QUARTER	28	6	36	A.M.	16	5 55	65 12	6 19	65 51	3 33	71 8	17 11	112 28	3 36	72 41	2 35	75 13	
APOGEE	..	5	6	0	A.M.	21	6 42	65 6	6 46	66 2	3 48	70 15	17 9	112 25	3 38	72 34	2 36	75 9
PERIGEE	..	20	4	0	A.M.	26	7 25	66 2	7 12	66 30	4 2	69 28	17 6	112 23	3 40	72 26	2 37	75 6
						30	7 57	67 23	7 34	67 5	4 14	68 54	17 4	112 21	3 42	72 21	2 38	75 6

JULY

Year of Month	Day of Week	ANNIVERSARIES, OCCURRENCES, FESTIVALS, &c.	SUN				MOON.				DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.												HIGH WATER				Day of the Year.				
			SOUTHS.				SOUTHS.																AT LONDON BRIDGE.								
			Rises.	After 12 o'Clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Morning.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Before Sunrise.				O'Clock.				After Sunset.				Morning.		Afternoon.						
h.	m.	m.	s.	Deg.	h.	m.	Deg.	h.	m.	0	1	2	3	4	Moon's Age.	8	9	10	11	12	h.	m.	h.	m.							
1	F	Arcturus S at 7h 30m P.M.	3	49	3	27	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	17	1	1	8	10	50 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	34											10	15	10	46	182
2	S	Visit. B. V. Mary	3	49	3	39	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	17	1	20	8	54	55	4	42											11	15	11	45	183
3	S	6TH S. aft. TRIN.	3	50	3	50	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	16	1	43	9	39	58 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	48										No Tide.	0	10			184
4	M	Trans. St. Martin	3	51	4	1	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	16	2	12	10	27	61	6	54										0	36	1	0		185
5	Tu	Ox. Act. & C. Com.	3	52	4	12	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	16	2	47	11	17	62 $\frac{3}{4}$	7	54										1	20	1	40		186
6	W	Old Mids. Day.	3	53	4	22	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	16	3	31	Afternoon	63	8	43											2	0	2	20		187
7	Th	Thomas à Beckett	3	54	4	32	61	8	15	4	26	1	0	62	9	24										2	35	3	0		188
8	F	Fire Ins. d. C. T. e.	3	55	4	42	61	8	15	5	30	1	51	59 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	56										3	15	3	35		189
9	S	Oxford Term ends	3	56	4	51	60 $\frac{3}{4}$	8	14	6	44	2	41	56	10	22										3	50	4	10		190
10	S	7TH S. aft. TRIN.	3	57	5	0	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	14	7	58	3	29	51 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	43										4	30	4	50		191
11	M	Old St. Peter	3	58	5	8	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	13	9	14	4	16	46 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	2										5	5	5	30		192
12	Tu	Length of day 16h 13m	3	59	5	16	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	12	10	30	5	3	40 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	20										5	50	6	10		193
13	W	Alpha Serpente due south at 8h 11m P.M.	4	0	5	23	60 $\frac{1}{4}$	8	11	11	50	5	50	34 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	36										6	35	7	0		194
14	Th	Antares south at 8h 50m P.M.	4	1	5	30	60 $\frac{1}{4}$	8	10	Afternoon	6	39	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	54											7	30	7	55		195
15	F	St. Swithin	4	2	5	36	60	8	9	2	34	7	31	23	Morning.											8	25	8	55		196
16	S	Mercury in descending node at 5h 50m A.M.	4	3	5	42	59 $\frac{3}{4}$	8	8	4	0	8	27	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	16										9	30	10	0		197
17	S	8TH S. aft. TRIN.	4	4	5	48	59 $\frac{3}{4}$	8	7	5	25	9	27	14 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	44										10	35	11	10		198
18	M	Alpha Hercules south at 9h 21m P.M.	4	5	5	52	59 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	6	6	43	10	30	13	1	21										11	45	No Tide.			199
19	Tu	Beta Lyra south at 10h 53m P.M.	4	6	5	57	59 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	5	7	48	11	33	13	2	13										0	19	0	50		200
20	W	Margaret	4	8	6	0	59 $\frac{1}{4}$	8	4	8	38	Morning.			3	20										1	20	1	45		201
21	Th	Mercury greatest E. elong. at 5h 6m A.M.	4	9	6	3	59	8	3	9	14	0	35	14 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	38										2	15	2	40		202
22	F	Magdalene	4	10	6	6	58 $\frac{3}{4}$	8	2	9	41	1	32	18 $\frac{1}{4}$	5	59										3	5	3	30		203
23	S	Alpha Aquile south at 11h 36m P.M.	4	11	6	8	58 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	0	10	2	2	25	22 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	20										3	50	4	15		204
24	S	9TH S. aft. TRIN.	4	12	6	9	58 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	58	10	19	3	14	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	38										4	35	4	55		205
25	M	St. James	4	14	6	10	58 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	56	10	35	3	59	33 $\frac{1}{4}$	9	53										5	15	5	40		206
26	Tu	St. Anne	4	15	6	11	58	7	54	10	50	4	42	38 $\frac{3}{4}$	11	4										6	0	6	20		207
27	W	Alpha Lyra due S. at 10h 10m P.M.	4	17	6	10	57 $\frac{3}{4}$	7	53	11	6	5	24	44 $\frac{1}{4}$	Afternoon											6	40	7	0		208
28	Th	Uranus in conjunction with the Moon at 11h 49m A.M.	4	19	6	9	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	51	11	24	6	6	49 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	20										7	20	7	45		209
29	F	Length of night 8h 31m	4	21	6	8	57 $\frac{1}{4}$	7	50	11	45	6	49	53 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	30										8	10	8	40		210
30	S	Saturn in conjunction with the Moon at 1h 24m A.M.	4	23	6	6	57	7	49	Morning.	7	34	57 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	37											9	15	9	45		211
31	S	10TH S. aft. TRIN.	4	24	6	3	56 $\frac{3}{4}$	7	47	0	12	8	21	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	43										10	20	10	55		212





THE PIC-NIC.

SUMMER time, glorious summer time, asserts its full maturity in the month of July. Its hot sunshine, its penetrating light, its close streets and still closer houses, the busy Babel of sounds so distinct in the dry atmosphere, all weary the senses to a degree that makes the most determined lover of the town sigh for quiet, and admit that, however agreeable a London life may be, it is hardly the scene one would fix upon for full enjoyment in the dog-days. Society itself begins to discover that a life of mere pleasure may become as wearisome as a life of actual labour; and that nothing short of an occasional glance at Nature herself can enable it to

endure unto the end of the season, when fashion shall dismiss it to "fresh fields and pastures new."

A day in the country! How pleasant it sounds to the busy idler, weary of the trouble of finding amusement for himself. "A day in the country! how charming it would be!" chime in certain soft voices. "Ay, a day in the country, with a gay party to enjoy it, would be worth anything just now," eagerly responds some active promoter of excitement of any kind. "Why, the mere sight of green fields would be more refreshing than anything London has to show. What is a dance of shepherdesses on the stage to a dance on the greensward by ourselves?" "Or the Sax-horns in Kensington-gardens," interrupts another, "to French horns on the water?" "And how easily it could be managed," exclaim both together, "if only one or two goodnatured matrons would take the matter in hand; the trouble would be little, and the pleasure would be great; so why should it not come to pass?" Active canvassings and earnest petitions are preferred on all sides; slight difficulties are overcome, and great ones are set at naught; and eventually

something like consent is extorted from the powers that be, and finally a pic-nic is decided upon.

On the first blush of the affair, the mere fact of a favourable award seems enough to satisfy all but the most exacting. The least selfish of the party offers her house and her services; and the next day is set apart for preliminary considerations, for the barometer must necessarily be consulted, and the extent of the party ascertained. Where they are to go—what they are to do—and where-withal they are to be fed, remains a problem to be solved; and it would hardly be a matter of surprise if, before the close of the evening, the person most implicated in the affair should have arrived at a conclusion of never again doing a good-natured thing without taking twelve good hours to consider of it. The to-morrow arrives in due course, and with it many suggestions for carrying out their plan. The gentlemen are unanimously of opinion that taking provisions with them is always found to be a bore; and declare that the only way of passing a day pleasantly in the country is to order a handsome *déjeuner* at the Star and Garter, securing to themselves, afterwards, as large a portion of Richmond Park as rapid railroads, rival steam-boats, with their usual concomitants, may leave at their disposal.

Anything so common-place as a cold dinner at an inn—for in such disparaging terms is the proposition characterised by the ladies—is voted impracticable and not to be thought of. Do they suppose that any one could consent to drive fifteen miles under a hot sun, merely to dine on mahogany and be waited upon by people who know their business? Such a consummation is not to be entertained for a moment; they would rather dine at home, or even not dine at all, than lend themselves to anything so common-place and prosaic. "What, then, is to be done?" demand the lovers of good cheer well served. "Listen, and I will tell you," responds the boldest of the fair dissentients, with a pretty air of mock gravity. In the first place we must find out some secluded valley, unprofaned by the feet of the multitude, where we may take our rest; hemmed in on every side by a belt of waving woods, with a clear

stream meandering through it, a smooth green bank for our table, and a wilderness of feathery boughs for a canopy, under which shall be spread such fare as the free-will offerings of our friends may bestow, with no attendants besides each other. Such is the *pic-nic* England once delighted to honour, and such is the *pic-nic* which we can alone enjoy."

"But the bill of fare—There really must be a good bill of fare!" persists the more material of the conclave. Even a short drive is usually found provocative of a good appetite. Grazing sheep may have a rural appearance, but are sometimes found to be rather suggestive of roast mutton; cows in the distance may be picturesque, but creams nearer at hand may be thought to have the advantage. Ices and ivy go well together, though the ancients may have limited their union to wine alone; and, in short, their own suggestions for the entertainment of their fair friends having met with little favour, they feel justified in making rather particular enquiries into the commissariat department, which they are prepared to offer. Under other circumstances they need hardly say they should not venture to trespass on ground not their own."

The gentlemen dismissed on their embassy to find a locality that shall embody every possible advantage, the ladies are at liberty to proceed to the business before them. There are few occurrences in actual life that cannot be easily arranged when each party is equally willing to be obliging and to be obliged. One lady offers to contribute the *pièces de resistance*—a second promises such *entr'actes* and *hors d'œuvres* as can be served cold—whilst a third undertakes to produce the dessert, and a Gynæceia of character so discreet that his ministry shall only be inferred by the perfect arrangement of the whole affair.

The morning of the great day at length arrives, bright and balmy, as though no unusual event were on the tapis. A shower had fallen in the night, as though to lay the dust and spare the millinery. The tempered sunbeams shone through a veil of gauzy mist, as if in deference to the fair faces about to confront them. The gentlemen have fortunately been successful in finding a *locale* beautiful, in their florid description, as the Happy Valley itself; and, having whispered the secret in confidence, are relieved of the burthen of the *comestibles*. Everybody is in good looks and in good spirits. The carriages come when they are ordered, and the ladies are scarcely less punctual. The right people are packed into the right conveyances, and the amateur Phætons are harmonious, having settled their differences among themselves by the way. The detachment that is to join on the road falls in at the right place, and everything promises well for a happy day. The drive is taken leisurely through bowery lanes (such are to be found even near London). Why should they hasten to abridge one pleasure merely to anticipate another, when they have the live-long day before them for the perfect enjoyment of both? They linger on the road to avail themselves of such picturesque points of view as may happen to present themselves. Wayside flowers, boasting the charm of novelty to the wearers of exotics, are discovered, and must be secured, at any cost; and whips and parasols are in requisition to catch the last straggling woodbine that flaunts gaily on the topmost branch of the hedgerow.

Where is the scene that can show pleasanter nooks beside its still waters than the county of Surrey? England, in comparison with foreign nations, may have little to boast of, of a very romantic character. But where abroad is the pastoral scenery that can match our own? Warm and eager expressions of admiration are lavished on all sides. The gentlemen, encouraged by the encomiums bestowed on their taste and judgment, take advantage of the flood-tide of favour to hint that a "slight refectory" at once, by way of inauguration, would by no means be amiss. This suggestion, though hardly falling in with the programme of the festivities of the day, is, with a laughing protest, conceded. Scarcely are the steeds stabled, and the party assembled together, when a low whistle is heard from an adjoining copse. The lady in chief, followed by her satellites, adventures into the shady glade, and finds beneath the leafy screen an impromptu *déjeuner* spread before them. Blessings on the cunning hand that can conjure up hot coffee the moment it is wanted, and good digestion wait on the appetites that can be content with such simple fare!

But they are not suffered to linger long at the sylvan repast, however disposed they may be to enjoy the present. They must be up and be doing, for certain energetic spirits are amongst them, who aver that the picturesque must always be sought out to be fully enjoyed, and that nature will not reveal her hidden treasures to the careless and the indolent. Fortunately, they have not far to look for objects of interest on the present occasion; for there, perched high on a craggy steep, scarcely two miles distant, is a country church of very primitive design, which may contain "rich stores of antiquity well worthy a large perusal;" and forthwith a lover of ancient brasses volunteers to be cicerone, inviting the ladies collectively and individually to accompany him on an archaeological survey; promising them, in the faith of an antiquary, that should the church be found but commonplace in itself, the prospect from its turret would amply repay their pious pilgrimage. A more modish cavalier next prefers his suit. He proposes a visit to some show-house, nearer at hand; and, though not exactly aware of its situation or actual distance, is quite certain it cannot be far off. It is, he assures them, well worth seeing; has gardens that cost untold sums of money; and boasts a picture-gallery, said to rival the national one, both within and without. A gallant sailor, with his dashing lieutenant, points to two trim wherries sleeping on the stream below, which his provident ear had secured for the occasion, and urges a sail or a row. A grave topophilite hints of "bow and target," when the wind lulls; and triumphantly produces on the spot a travelling chess-board, that has won honourable mention at the Great Exhibition, who could lack amusement with such varied resources at their command. The difficulty seems rather to lie in the selection. After a brief scene of vehement importunity on the part of the rival showmen, that might have done,

honour to a group of French *commissaires*, the party break up into little groups: the sentimental declare for the aquatics; the adventurous for the house of exhibition; whilst the grave and sententious go in search of the antique. The married ladies, dividing the quick-eared children among them, thus perform the duty of *chaperons* by deputy. They, however, accompany the party down the hill; and, if the truth must be told, gladly, if slowly, return to the point of observation from which they had set out. All are at liberty to seek their own amusement in their own way for three good hours, when the result of their various peregrinations is to be recounted for the general benefit on their return.

Nor are the less enterprising left entirely without certain small triumphs of their own. They have discovered a spot of the most perfect seclusion for the banquet, with a spring of pure water bubbling up nigh at hand. They have beheld nuts in profusion, half ripe, and gathered a basket of wild wood-strawberries. A botanist has found certain scarce plants to help perfect her herbal; and they have, in addition, had all sorts of good fortune promised them by a wandering Cassandra. And when, at length, the sun waxing warm, they begin to think what they shall do next, they have only to retire into the shade, read and converse at leisure, and taste the enviable enjoyment of watching their friends afar off, struggling through the long grass of a meadow into which they have evidently trespassed, and toiling up the steep ascent to join them. By twos and threes the weary wanderers drop in, hungry, and almost too tired to talk. At length the gallant sailors and the water nymphs, long looked for, make their appearance, and this time a clear, bold voice is heard to sing "Haste to the Banquet."

And trust me, gentler, never yet,
Was dight a masquing half so neat,
Or half so rich before.

The country lends the sweet perfumes,
The sea the pearl, the sky the plumes,
The town its silken store.

The wanderers! o'er, the board is laid,
And sicker such a feast is made
As heart and lip desire;
Withouten hands the dishes fly;
The glasses with a wish come nigh,
And with a wish retire.

And, when the rage of hunger is appeased, what a chorus of merry voices is heard. The adventurers in search of fine gardens and fine pictures pronounce themselves amply satisfied with the sight; although, when closely pressed, cannot deny that much better might be seen nearer home. However, by virtue of their belonging to the "quality," they had, by special favour, been admitted to the sight, as it was not the regular show-day; and then the hermitage was said to be really something quite unique. The antiquarians professed to have been even more fortunate; for, though they had not brought away with them anything that would make very much of a figure at the Archaeological Society, they had seen a very remarkable font in a rather dilapidated condition; had met with inscriptions, whose meaning could only be guessed at; and had been rewarded by finding, "in a high state of preservation," the tomb of an ancient Knight.

Songs were now sung, and wise saws were uttered; histories of bygone pic-nics were recounted, and suggestions for prospective new ones were offered; and no one seem disposed to move: indeed, the fresh cool fruits of the dessert were almost too good to be abandoned. But tea must be had, if only for the sake of boiling the water gipsy-wise. Even the weary walkers declared themselves unwilling to forego the dance altogether, for many uneasy glances at the delay began to be exchanged between the "flute" and the "French horn." Seeing this, some of the ladies were obliging enough, by way of sedative to their growing impatience, to request a rehearsal, that might act as a gentle reminder of their duty to the laggards. How delightful is a dance *sans cérémonie*: 'tis true the springy turf is hardly so pleasant a footing as springy boards; but then there is no comparison between the cool stroll between the dances and the hot promenade of the ball-room.

Before we conclude we must not omit to mention that the married ladies behaved with great generosity on the occasion, and were content to receive the homage of the least eligible of the cavaliers; they also made themselves particularly agreeable to such *ci-devant jeunes hommes* as needed partners. One of them even went so far as to learn chess, for the sake of using the migratory chess-board. Could complacency go farther than this? But virtue has its own reward; and an obliging offer was made by the happy possessor, to repeat the lesson whenever his fair pupil would give him an opportunity so to do.

And then the drive home, how soothing and pleasant it was, in the rich dewy twilight. The chief members of the party were merry, "within the limits of becoming mirth." A few were dreamy and silent, but none were sad. The ladies were congratulated on the perfect success of the entertainment; and, not to be outdone in generosity, they returned the compliment, by offering a willing and gracious tribute to the perfect chivalry of the gentlemen. And everything having gone off so well, the parties most interested resolved to repose on their laurels, and not risk the fame they had won, as most admirable managers of a *Pic-Nic*, by any second adventure. Entreaties for just such another day were either delicately evaded or adjourned to that more convenient season that is always so long in coming. Does the reader ask the secret of such unparalleled success? The day was fine, the fare was plentiful, the party happened to be well assorted, and each one had acted on the precept of Holy Writ—IN HONOUR PREFERRING ONE ANOTHER!

JULY.



Scale, 3 degrees to one inch.

THE PATH OF URANUS FROM JANUARY 1, 1852, TO MAY 21, 1855.

THE SUN is situated north of the Equator, and is moving southward. On the 23rd, at 0h. 20m. A.M., he enters Leo (the Lion), having been in the Crab 31 days 10 hours 57 minutes. His distance from the Earth on the 3rd day is 96,597,300 miles, being the greatest during the year. This decreases, at first slowly, and afterwards more quickly, to 96,407,900 by the end of the month. He rises near the N.E. by N., and sets near N.W. by N. throughout the month; at the beginning about 3° N., and towards the end about 6° S. of these points. The times of his rising, southing, and setting are given in common clock time daily in the calendar pages; also, his angular measure above the horizon at his greatest altitude.

On the 2nd the Moon is in the constellation Taurus; on the 5th she is in Gemini; on the 7th, in Cancer; on the 8th, in Leo; on the 11th, in Virgo; and on the 15th, in Libra; on the 16th she passes into Scorpio, and from thence into Ophiuchus; on the 18th she is in Sagittarius; on the 20th, in Capricornus; on the 22nd in Aquarius; and on the 24th, in Pisces; on the 25th she is in Cetus; on the 26th, in Pisces; on the 27th, in Cetus again; and, skirting the boundaries of Cetus and Aries, enters Taurus on the 29th; and is in Gemini on the last day.

She is above the horizon when the Sun is below during the morning hours till the 3rd, and after the 19th; and during the night hours from the 8th to the 22nd. She is at her extreme north declination on the morning of the 6th; crosses the Equator, going south, on the 13th; is at her extreme south declination on the 19th; and crosses the Equator about midnight on the 25th.

She is near Uranus on the 1st; Saturn on the 2nd; Mars on the 3rd; Venus on the 7th; Mercury on the 8th; Jupiter on the 17th; Uranus on the 28th; and Saturn on the 30th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Cancer till the 13th, and in Leo to the end of the month. He rises after the Sun throughout the month, and is therefore not visible in the mornings. He sets after the Sun on the 1st by 1h. 16m.; increasing to 1h. 18m. by the 3d; the interval of time decreases from the 5th to 1h. 13m. by the 10th; to 1h. 9m. by the 15th; to 59m. by the 19th; to 45m. by the 26th; and to 32m. by the last day. This planet is, therefore, favourably situated till the 20th, and may be seen with the naked eye near the horizon in the W.N.W.

within an hour after sunset. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 8th; and Regulus on the 20th. He is at his greatest eastern elongation on the 21st; and is in aphelion on the 26th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in June.

VENUS is in the constellation Gemini till the 4th; in Cancer till the 20th; and in Leo to the end of the month. She is an evening star, and sets at 9h. 12m. on the 1st; at 9h. 6m. on the 15th, and at 8h. 44m. on the last day: these times follow those of sunset by nearly an hour. She sets near the N.W. by W. at the beginning, and at the W.N.W. at the end of the month; is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 7th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in May.

MARS is in the constellation Taurus throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 1h. 36m. A.M.; on the 15th at 1h. 13m. A.M.; and on the last day at 0h. 49m. A.M.; near the N.E. by E. point of the horizon throughout the month. He is moving eastward among the stars; and is near the Moon on the 3rd, and Aldebaran on the 5th and 6th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in October.

JUPITER is in the constellation Ophiuchus till the 9th, and in that of Scorpio from the 10th. He is an evening star, and sets on the 1st at 2h. 29m. A.M.; on the 15th at 1h. 28m. A.M.; and on the last day at 0h. 21m. A.M., near the S.W. by W. point of the horizon. He is moving westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 17th. He souths on the 1st at an altitude of 16° 10' increasing to 16° 19' by the end of the month. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in September.

SATURN is in the constellation Taurus throughout the month. He is a morning star, and rises on the 1st, at 1h. 27m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 0h. 35m. A.M.; and on the last day, 26m. before midnight, midway between the E.N.E. and N.E. by E. points of the horizon, and visible from these times till sunrise. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 2d and 30th, and souths at about the middle of the month, at an altitude of 56½°. For his

(Continued on page 52.)

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.						JUPITER'S SATELLITES.				OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.				
	Mercury.	Venus.	Mars.	Jupiter.	Saturn.	Uranus.	Eclipses of				Names of the Stars	Magni- tude.	Times of disappear- ance & re-appear- ance of the Star.	At which limb of the Moon.	Between what Latitude visible.
	Afternoon.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Morning.	1st Satellite.		2nd Satellite.						
							Re-appearance.	Re-appearance.	Re-appearance.	Re-appearance.					
	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.					
1	1 26	1 1	9 37	10 24	9 5	8 0	5 11 26 P.M.	1 8 53 P.M.		2 Librae	6 {	14 10 25 P.M.	Dark Bright	44° N. to 80° N.	
6	1 40	1 7	9 32	10 2	8 47	7 41	13 1 21 A.M.	8 11 33 P.M.				14 10 56 P.M.			
11	1 49	1 13	9 27	9 41	8 30	7 22	21 9 44 P.M.			A Star	6 {	17 8 56 P.M.	Dark Bright	20° N. to 65° N.	
16	1 54	1 19	9 22	9 19	8 12	7 3	23 11 39 P.M.					17 10 7 P.M.			
21	1 53	1 24	9 17	8 58	7 54	6 44				Lambda Sagittarii	4 {	18 11 34 P.M.	Dark Bright	2° N. to 65° N.	
26	1 47	1 28	9 12	8 37	7 36	6 25						19 0 16 A.M.			
31	1 35	1 32	9 7	8 17	7 18	6 5	12 10 24 P.M. D.	16 8 53 P.M.	23 10 17 P.M.						
							15 9 54 P.M. D.								
							28 8 26 P.M. D.								

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON, And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee) or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth in each Lunation.															
	6d.	10h.	54m.	A.M.		1	8h.	4m.	67° 47'	7h. 39m.	67° 15'	4h. 17m.	68° 46'	17h. 4m.	112° 21'
NEW MOON ..	13	10	15	P.M.	1	6	8 33	70 4	8 5	68 18	4 32	68 8	17 2	112 18	3 45
FIRST QUARTER 13					11	9	7	72 39	8 31	69 35	4 47	67 35	17 0	112 16	3 47
FULL MOON ..	20	1	54	P.M.	16	9	31	75 20	8 56	71 7	5 1	67 9	16 58	112 15	3 49
LAST QUARTER 27					21	9	50	77 56	9 21	72 52	5 16	66 47	16 56	112 13	3 51
APOGEE ..	2	4	0	P.M.	26	10	4	80 16	9 45	74 49	5 31	66 31	16 55	112 13	3 52
PERIGEE ..	18	8	0	A.M.	31	10	12	82 6	10 9	76 55	5 46	66 19	16 54	112 12	3 54
APOGEE ..	30	8	0	A.M.											

RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS WHEN PASSING THE MERIDIAN.												
	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.	
	Right Ascension.	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Dis- tance.
1	8h. 4m.	67° 47'	7h. 39m.	67° 15'	4h. 17m.	68° 46'	17h. 4m.	112° 21'	3h. 43m.	72° 19'	2h. 38m.	75° 2'
6	8 33	70 4	8 5	68 18	4 32	68 8	17 2	112 18	3 45	72 13	2 38	74 59
11	9 7	72 39	8 31	69 35	4 47	67 35	17 0	112 16	3 47	72 7	2 39	74 56
16	9 31	75 20	8 56	71 7	5 1	67 9	16 58	112 15	3 49	72 1	2 40	74 54
21	9 50	77 56	9 21	72 52	5 16	66 47	16 56	112 13	3 51	71 56	2 40	74 52
26	10 4	80 16	9 45	74 49	5 31	66 31	16 55	112 13	3 52	71 52	2 40	74 50
31	10 12	82 6	10 9	76 55	5 46	66 19	16 54	112 12	3 54	71 48	2 41	74 49

AUGUST

Day of Month	Day of Week	ANNIVERSARIES OCCURRENCES, FESTIVALS &c.	SUN. SOUTH.					MOON. SOUTH.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.												HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.				Day of the Year
			Rises.	After 12 o'Clock.		Sets.	Rises. Morning.	Morning.		Sets. Afternoon.	Before Sunrise.				Moon's Age.	After Sunset.				Morning.	Afternoon.								
				h. m.	s.			h. m.	deg.		h. m.	deg.	h. m.	0		1	2	3	4			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1	M	Lammas Day	4 25	6 0	56	7 46	0 43	9 10	62	5 45					26					h. m.	h. m.					213			
2	Tu	Arc'turus due Sat 5h 24m r. m.	4 27	5 56	56	7 44	1 24	10 16	63	6 38					27					No Tide		0 30				214			
3	W	Mercury stationary at 10h 20m A.M.	4 28	5 52	56	7 43	2 18	10 53	62	7 22					28					0 55		1 20				215			
4	Th	Day decreased 1h 22m	4 29	5 47	55	7 41	3 20	11 45	60	7 57					29					1 40		2 0				216			
5	F	Uranus quadrature to Sun at 2h 44m A.M.	4 31	5 42	55	7 40	4 30	Afternoon	57	8 31					0					2 20		2 40				217			
6	S	Pr. Alfred b. 1844	4 33	5 35	55	7 38	5 46	1 26	53	8 49					1					3 0		3 15				218			
7	S	11TH S. aft. TRIN.	4 35	5 29	55	7 36	7 2	2 14	48	9 8					2					3 35		3 55				219			
8	M	[Name of Jesus	4 36	5 21	54	7 34	8 20	3 14	42	9 25					3					4 10		4 30				220			
9	Tu	Length of day 14h 54m	4 38	5 13	54	7 32	9 38	3 48	36	9 42					4					4 50		5 5				221			
10	W	St. Lawrence	4 39	5 5	54	7 31	10 59	4 36	30	10 0					5					5 30		5 45				222			
11	Th	Dog Days end.	4 41	4 56	53	7 29	Afternoon	5 27	25	10 20					6					6 10		6 30				223			
12	F	[Half-Qr. day	4 43	4 46	53	7 27	1 45	6 20	19	10 45					7					6 55		7 20				224			
13	S	Old Lammas Day	4 44	4 36	53	7 25	3 8	7 17	15	11 19					8					7 50		8 20				225			
14	S	12TH S. aft. TRIN.	4 45	4 25	52	7 23	4 27	8 17	13	Morning.					9					8 55		9 35				226			
15	M	Assumption	4 46	4 13	52	7 21	5 36	9 18	12	0 3					10					10 15		11 0				227			
16	Tu	Alpha Aquile souths at 10h 4m P.M.	4 48	4 1	52	7 19	6 31	10 20	13	1 0					11					11 39		No Tide.				228			
17	W	Duch. of K. b. 1786	4 49	3 49	51	7 17	7 11	11 18	16	2 13					12					0 15		0 50				229			
18	Th	Mercury in inf. conjunction with Sun at 3h 15m A.M.	4 51	3 36	51	7 15	7 41	Morning.		3 33					13					1 20		1 45				230			
19	F	Alpha Lyre souths at 8h 40m P.M.	4 52	3 22	51	7 13	8 5	0 13	20	4 54					14					2 10		2 35				231			
20	S	Alpha Hercules souths at 7h 12m P.M.	4 54	3 8	51	7 11	8 24	1 4	25	6 14					15					2 55		3 15				232			
21	S	13TH S. aft. TRIN.	4 55	2 54	50	7 9	8 40	1 51	31	7 32					16					3 35		3 55				233			
22	M	[Blackcocksh. b	4 57	2 39	50	7 7	8 55	2 35	36	8 44					17					4 15		4 30				234			
23	Tu	Alpha Aquile souths at 9h 36m P.M.	4 59	2 24	50	7 5	9 11	3 18	42	9 55					18					4 50		5 5				235			
24	W	St. Bartholomew	5 0	2 8	49	7 3	9 28	4 1	47	11 6					19					5 20		5 40				236			
25	Th	Length of night 10h 1m	5 2	1 52	49	7 1	9 47	4 44	52	Afternoon					20					5 55		6 15				237			
26	F	P. Albert b. 1819	5 3	1 35	48	6 59	10 11	5 28	56	1 33					21					6 30		6 50				238			
27	S	Mercury stationary at 3h 48m A.M.	5 5	1 18	48	6 57	10 40	6 14	59	2 30					22					7 10		7 40				239			
28	S	14TH S. aft. TRIN.	5 7	1 1	48	6 55	11 18	7 2	62	3 34					23					8 5		8 45				240			
29	M	St. John Bap. beh	5 8	0 43	47	6 53	Morning.	7 52	63	4 32					24					9 25		10 5				241			
30	Tu	Mars in conjunction with the Moon at 4h 13m A.M.	5 10	0 26	47	6 51	0 4	8 44	63	5 18					25					10 45		11 25				242			
31	W	Day decreased 2h 58m	5 12	0 7	47	6 48	1 5	9 36	61	5 58					26					At Noon.		No Tide.				243			





THE EXCURSION.

ALTHOUGH we have, in a [preceding page, attempted to convey a slight idea of the pleasures which are sometimes to be met with at a pic-nic on a large scale, we must confess that our own experience leads us rather to distrust them *a priori*. It is not an easy thing to collect together a considerable number of people who shall assimilate well, as a whole, for an entire day, with no leading object of attraction beyond the face of nature. Such things are certainly to be found, as a perfectly harmonious assemblage of persons in search of the picturesque; but we are disposed to regard such a piece of good fortune, when it does occur, as rather the exception than the rule; for though every member of the party may wear an unclouded brow, and even affect an air of hilarity, the initiated, who look beyond the surface, will often see cause to mistrust these fair appearances, and the result is at least doubtful when more than half a dozen persons resolve to spend a day together quietly in the country. But how difficult it will always be found to limit a pleasure party to those few with whom the idea originated. The preparation deemed necessary for passing a few hours from home becomes disproportioned to the exigencies of the case, and then it appears desirable to enlarge the plan, and admit a few more to its enjoyments; this once agreed upon, each one has a dear friend or charming acquaintance to propose, whose society would prove a real acquisition. To deny so small a request would seem churlish indeed, and thus the original one or two form but the nucleus of an extensive gathering. A small party, of congenial tastes and habits of thought, carry with them their own elements of enjoyment, but who can answer for the assimilative properties of friends' friends? We often take most kindly to those whose characters are most individual;

hence the very qualities especially attractive to ourselves, may be those least generally social; yet, how often are such persons ruthlessly drawn into almost a family circle, with whom they have not a single bond of union, and by whom their admirers expect them to be as cordially received, and as thoroughly appreciated, as though they had been known to them for years. That love may spring up at first sight, we have had many a proof; but friendship, though demanding a lower temperature, requires more time to mature it. Alas! how manifold are the probabilities against securing a few hours' perfect enjoyment, in the shape of a pre-arranged expedition into the country. The anticipated day may perchance be fine, but if the company be fine also, adieu to the charm of the excursion; for the gay *persiflage*—the witty repartee—the *esprit de société*—admissible, if not always attractive, in the sphere of the drawingroom, seem most congenial to an atmosphere of *maréchale* and *patchouli*, and recall that conventional life from which, on an expedition of this description, it is the chief ambition of the moment to escape.

There is, however, a description of Excursion, which being of a more unpretending character than the Pic-Nic, is less liable to the accidents arising from external circumstances. We refer to the water party; not implying by this expression, the union of a yacht, a champagne luncheon, a crew of amateur sailors, and a bevy of nymphs in gossamer; but a trim boat on a fair stream; a little band of some half-dozen relatives or friends, in the true acceptance of the term; and finally, an enjoyment of the purest description. Yes, indeed, we must lament for those who have never spent one summer day of their lives in dreaming, either socially or solitarily, along the smooth course of some picturesque river—now progressing slowly by the agency of a few listless strokes; now resting on the oar, to gaze into the blue expanse above and trace the strange outlines of its flaky clouds; or, in the welcome shadow of some overhanging tree, to surrender for a moment the active sensation of existence, and sink into a state of half unconsciousness with the

thoughts at rest, but every feeling keenly sensitive to the charm of the world around. To those true enthusiasts in nature who are not contented with paying careless tribute to its general perfection, but thoroughly familiarise themselves with its individual features, the water appears to be one of the most beautiful, and becomes one of the most beloved; for them it has a nameless fascination, and is recognised as something beyond a mere silent highway or a desirable accessory in landscape-gardening. They understand the affection of the sailor for his peculiar element, notwithstanding its occasional outbreak; and sympathise in the feeling which induced the eastern sages to select the transparent waters as an emblem of the truth that thinketh no guile. They gaze on its eddying currents, and ask no greater variety than is occasioned by the changing lights and shadows; they look down into its limpid depths and demand no grander field for observation than is afforded by the world of still life beneath; and they desire no greater pleasure than a few hours devoted to communion with its silent beauty and almost mysterious charm.

This one, of the many pleasures provided by the liberal hand of nature to purify and refresh the spirits both of rich and poor, is happily not denied to the inhabitants of our great cities, by whom from force of contrast it would naturally be most warmly appreciated. Few rivers, for example, can afford more pleasant scenes for an excursion than our own old Thames, with the many objects of interest on its banks to beguile the time, and serve as an excuse for the expedition. For those who delight in smooth lawns, noble trees, and botanical wonders of every kind, there are the splendid gardens at Kew; but a little higher up lies Richmond, a world of loveliness implied by its original name of Shene; and Hampton Court, that bourn of excursionists, pre-ents, a few miles onward, its manifold artificial attractions. There are surely sufficient resources within reach to guard against the possibility of a wearisome day in the event, not a very probable one, of the picturesque banks of the river itself presenting insufficient attractions. There are, no doubt, very many persons of all classes who look back to days spent on its bosom as green spots in the track of common life, and will cherish the recollection when more important events have passed from their minds; and very many more, if they hearken to our advice, will seize the first pleasant day that presents itself to store up for themselves equally agreeable reminiscences by imitating the example of the party represented on the preceding page.

As the Pic-nic is usually the result of many an hour's council and cogitation, so the Excursion should always be the inspiration of bright sunshine and buoyant spirits, executed almost on the instant. It should admit, as we have said before, no friends but the dearest, and of these few of us have sufficient number to render the choice embarrassing; none should enumber it who have either fears or finery to be considered, and who cannot summon up at command a little merriment, and a little sentiment—for both will be called into requisition before the day is over. The matter once decided, let them not lose time in seeking conveniences to take with them, for such will assuredly be found but encumbrances in disguise; no, not even though there be ladies in the case, for they will prove at least as independent of creature comforts as any gentleman we ever met with. A sufficiency of the actual necessities for the day will not present a very formidable appearance, and will not be the less appreciated from the absence of the accessories which usually accompany them. Their brief preparations made, our excursionists set forth on their journey, enjoying its result almost as much in anticipation as in reality. Their immediate object is, of course, to leave behind them as speedily as possible London and that portion of the river which is the peculiar sphere of warehouses and penny-boats, and to arrive with the least possible exercise of patience at scenes more congenial to their schemes of amusement. The railroad or steam-boat provides the mean of transit; and at that stage of their journey which may be dictated by the greater or smaller capabilities of the gentlemen for rowing, they quit their more rapid though less romantic conveyance, and become for a time the happy occupants of the first boat they meet with. And now, all obstacles surmounted, and their enterprise sufficiently rewarded, the noise and throng of humanity are exchanged for the splashing sound of the oars in the water, and as much solitude as they can reasonably desire. They have escaped from the oppressive mist of an August day in town, to the refreshing influence of a clear atmosphere and soft breeze; and, more delightful still, the ordinary duties which appertain to the everyday life of each, have yielded for this occasion to the paramount obligation of being happy. The rowers betake themselves to their self-imposed labour with hearty good-will, indifferent, for a time at least, to the fervid rays of the sun; and their companions find food for observation and pleasant converse in many a little passing incident. They gaze on the beautiful villas that so richly adorn the banks of the Thames; now in the proud guise of a stately modern mansion, with its *façade* of stone pillars, and smooth lawn, bounded only by the elms which raise their heads amidst the drooping willows at the water's verge; now in the modest semblance of a thatched cottage (the result, no doubt, of infinitely more care and thought), half veiled with luxuriant ivy, and quite embowered in the circling band of shrubs and trees through which a stolen glance, tempting curiosity, is all that can be obtained. They speculate on the different houses, and people them according to their fancy; not forgetting to envy the inhabitants their privilege of boating as often as they desire, without those preliminary exertions by which they themselves have purchased the pleasure, being rather unconscious how much it has in reality been enhanced thereby. Then a passing steamboat at intervals breaks the stillness with its panting and scuffling, its inharmonious band, and the hum of its gay and noisy freight. It may be doubted if either party envies the other; but our friends have as we see ample reason to be contented with their lot. Time has sped more rapidly than they could have believed possible since their departure from home; the sun is at its meridian; and, willingly or unwillingly, they

are compelled to acknowledge its power, and become sensible of an inclination for rest, shade, and more substantial refreshment. They steer for the left bank of the river, which promises to gratify one of their requirements, and find beneath the drooping branches of a mountain ash a haven as delicious as their imaginations could have demanded at the hand of Nature. The oarsmen now gladly rest from their labours; one occupies himself in raising a large branch, which impedes their complete entrance within the bower; and the other leans back in an attitude of perfect *dolce far niente* enjoyment. He, at least, will experience that passive, dreamy happiness to which we have already alluded as the crowning delight of a boating expedition. The youngest of the party has attained, at last, the object of his ambition, in the possession of an car; and with, as we should imagine from his countenance, a rather unduly idea of his own responsibility, is dabbling harmlessly in the water, under the direction of his next senior in years, who, by virtue of a limited degree of experience, is instructing him in the management of his unwieldy plaything. The two younger of the damsels are inviting the companionship of a pair of the sacred swans of the Thames, which here, as

On St. Mary's Lake,
Float doubt, swan and shadow.

They are, however, of much greater importance than their compeers in general, being under the special protection of the civic authorities. They flutter their snowy plumage, and dip their delicate slender necks in the water as though conscious of deserving the admiration they inspire, and approach the boat with all the confidence of bidden guests, patiently awaiting the *largesse* which former experience has taught them to consider their due; nor will they have long to wait. The meditative maiden in the stern of the boat, "on hospitable thoughts intent," only awaits a steady anchorage to dispense such cheer as is usually to be found on an excursion really impromptu; and which, though not exactly hermit's fare, can boast little that would be deemed luxury by a professed epicure. The good appetites of the party happily dispose them to do full justice to it; nor do they waste any time in idle ceremonies. They linger long, however, in their shady retreat, thinking, as we do, that on a sunny afternoon they can scarcely change their position for a better. The rowers affect continued fatigue, that they may prolong the pleasures of idleness; they listen to the dreamy lay of the "Castle of Indolence," read by a sweet low voice, and think how completely the strain is in harmony with the scene around.

At length the children become impatient for a more stirring scene, and awaken their elders to the duties of common life and the professed object of their expedition. Once more the oars are in requisition, and they are soon landed on the opposite shore at the foot of Richmond-bridge, which was in full view of their resting-place; the boat is committed to the charge of a waterman, with directions that it shall await them a quarter of a mile ahead, and they forthwith proceed to mount thy "verdant hill, delightful Shene."

Perhaps a more striking contrast between the two sides of an eminence has seldom presented itself than in the instance of Richmond-hill; on the town side, the ascent is steep, narrow, dusty, and irregular, with little to attract, even of a town life character; we toil on, and on, being forcibly reminded of Bunyan's hill of difficulty, until we reach the summit! No casual glimpse by the way has prepared us for the glorious view which we are to behold; we turn the angle of a brick wall that seemed interminable, and one of the fairest scenes of this or any other land is spread out before us. But who can describe the prospect. It has only wood, water, and green turf to recommend it; but Nature must have been in lavish mood when she fashioned so perfect a whole; no less an authority than Wordsworth himself has proclaimed it the most beautiful piece of pastoral scenery that he had met with, either at home or abroad. There is the wooded park for a background, with its rich foliage extending miles and miles away; the declivity now gentle and gradual, now abrupt and precipitous; the middle distance of meadows, green as the emerald; the winding river with its willowy islands and its picturesque villas, half concealed in a world of greenery; and far, far away the turrets of Windsor Castle are now seen, now lost, in the distance. Who that beholds all this for the first time does not feel his utter inability to express in words the feeling of intense admiration which it inspires, for there is a subduing influence in beauty of every kind. By-and-by the tongue is loosed, fresh points of view and fresh prospects are discovered, and each is declared more lovely than its predecessor. Having beheld the scene from every other point of sight, it only remains to view it from the extreme end of the ragged pathway which incloses the park. It is true the river is there hardly visible, but the uplands and lowlands of foliage, with the clear blue sky above them, offer no unworthy idea of Vallambrosa, for no sign of the habitation of man presents itself to break the charm of the woody landscape. Often and long do they linger, until the declining sun warns them that even a summer day must come to an end. In the programme of their expedition had been included a visit to Twickenham, and a glance at the garden that once belonged to Pope, as well as at the "painted barn" of Horace Walpole; but to surrender the golden glory of the setting sun during their homeward voyage would, indeed, be too great a sacrifice to pay; the haunts of the poet and the worldly philosopher must, on this occasion remain unvisited, but will serve as a welcome shrine for a future pilgrimage. And thus the day comes to an end, having proved fertile in enjoyment, not the less real from the simplicity of its elements; the wanderers have met with no stirring adventure, surmounted no romantic difficulty, and seen no sight but the face of nature; that, however, they have sought in a worthy and earnest spirit, and have had their reward.

AUGUST.



Scale, 40 seconds of arc to one inch.

SUCCESSIVE TELESCOPIC APPEARANCES OF MERCURY DURING 1853.

THE SUN is situated north of the Equator, and is moving south. On the 23d day, at 6h. 53m. A.M., he passes from the sign Leo to that of Virgo (the Virgin), having been in the former sign 31 days 6 hours 33 minutes. His distance from the Earth on the 1st day is 96,395,300 miles, which decreases to 95,839,100 by the last day. He rises at the beginning of the month a few degrees north of E.N.E.; at this point on the 15h. and near the E. by N. at the end of the month. He sets at corresponding points in the west. Two times of his rising, southing, and setting, are given in ordinary clock time daily in the calendar pages; also his angular measure above the horizon at his greatest altitude.

On the 3d the Moon is in the constellation Cancer; on the 5th, in Leo; and on the 7th, in Virgo; on the 11th, she is in Libra; on the 12th, in Scorpio; on the 13th, in Ophiuchus; on the 14th, in Sagittarius; on the 16th, in Capricornus; on the 18th, in Aquarius; on the 20th, in Pisces; and on the 21st in Cetus; on the 22d, she re-enters Pisces, is in Cetus on the 23d; and, skirting the boundaries of Cetus and Aries, is in Taurus on the 25th; on the 25th she is in Gemini; and on the 31st in Cancer.

She is above the horizon when the Sun is below, during the morning hours till the 3d and after the 17th; and during the night hours from the 9th to the 23d.

She is at her extreme north declination on the 21, crosses the Equator on the 9th, is at her extreme south declination on the 15th, crosses the Equator, going north on the 22d; and reaches her extreme north declination on the 29th.

She is near Mars on the 1st, Mercury and Venus on the 6th, Jupiter on the 13th, Uranus on the 24th, Saturn on the 26th, and Mars on the 30th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Leo throughout the month. He rises after the Sun till the 19th, and before him from the 20th, by 1h. 4m. on the 26th; and by 1h. 33m. on the last day. He is moderately well situated for observation on a few days at the end of the month, shortly before sunrise, near the horizon, on the E. by N. He moves slowly eastward among the stars till the 21, is stationary among them on the 3d, is moving westward from the 4th to the 26th, is a second time stationary on the 27th, and moves eastward from the 28th; is near Venus on the 1st, the Moon on the 6th, and in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the 18th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in December. His telescopic appearances throughout the year are shown above, at certain times, so that his appearance on any day may be inferred.

VENUS is in the constellation Leo till the 16th, and in Virgo to the end of the

SUCCESSIVE TELESCOPIC APPEARANCES OF VENUS DURING 1853.



Scale, 40 seconds of arc to one inch.

month; she is an evening star, and sets on the 1st, at 8h. 43m.; on the 15th at 8h. 16m.; and on the last day at 7h. 42m., being nearly one hour after the Sun has set. She sets near the E.N.E. at the beginning of the month; at the E. by N. on the 7th, and at the E. on the 27th; is moving eastward among the stars; is near Regulus and Mercury on the 1st; the Moon on the 6th; and Beta Virginis on the 23d. Her telescopic appearances throughout the year are shown in the annexed diagram: she is not brilliant at any time.

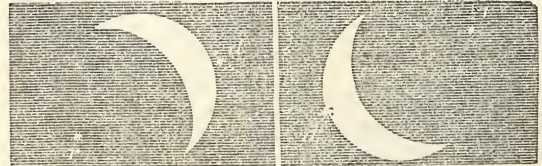
MARS is in the constellation Taurus till the 3d, and in Gemini to the end of the month. He is visible from a little after midnight till the time of sunrise, rising on the 1st at 0h. 48m. A.M.; on the 19th at 0h. 33m. A.M.; and on the last day

at 0h. 20m. A.M., near the N.E. by E. point of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars; is occulted by the Moon on the 1st, and is near her on the 30h. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars see the diagram in October.

OCCULTATION OF MARS BY THE MOON ON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 1, 1852, AS SEEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE WHICH

Inverts.

Does not invert.



The Planet disappears at the dark limb of the Moon at 5h. 48m. A.M., and re-appears at the bright limb at 7h. 9m. A.M.

JUPITER is in the constellation Scorpio throughout the month. He sets on the 1st at 0h. 18m. A.M.; on the 15th at 1h. 18m. P.M.; and on the last day at 10h. 17m. P.M., near the S.W. by W. point of the horizon. He is moving westward among the stars till the 10th, is stationary among them on the 11th, is moving eastward from the 12th, and is near the Moon on the 13h. He souths at an altitude of 16° 19' at the beginning, decreasing to 16° 10' by the end of the month. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in September.

SATURN is in the constellation Taurus throughout the month, and is a morning star; rising on the 1st at 1h. 30m. P.M., and on the last day at 9h. 37m. P.M., midway between the E.N.E. and N.E. by E. points of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars, is in quadrature with the Sun on the 24th, and near the Moon on the 26th; he souths at an altitude of 56° 1'. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in January.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 10h. 34m. P.M., and on the last day at 8h. 36m. P.M., near the E.N.E. point of the horizon; he souths at an altitude of 53°. He is moving very slowly eastward among the stars at the beginning; is stationary at about the middle, and moving westward towards the end of the month; is in quadrature with the Sun on the 5th, and near the Moon on the 24th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The times of the eclipses and occultations are given below; those of the transits are as follow:—

Satellites.	Times of Transits.			Satellites.	Times of Transits of Shadows.		
	D.	H.	M.		D.	H.	M.
1st	5	9	37 P.M.	1st	5	8	29 P.M.
	12	9	13 P.M.		5	10	45 P.M.
	12	11	24 P.M.		12	10	24 P.M.
	21	7	43 P.M.		21	9	4 P.M.
	28	7	26 P.M.		28	8	43 P.M.
2d	23	9	41 P.M.	2d	18	9	5 P.M.
	25	9	6 P.M.		25	8	56 P.M.
3d	17	10	2 P.M.	3d	10	8	12 P.M.
					10	11	1 P.M.

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.					
	Mercury.	Venus.	Mars.	Jupiter.	Saturn.	Uranus.
	Afternoon.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Morning.
1	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.
6	1 32	1 33	9 6	8 13	7 15	6 2
11	1 11	1 36	9 1	7 53	6 55	5 42
16	0 43	1 39	8 56	7 33	6 38	5 23
21	Morning.	1 42	8 50	7 13	6 19	5 3
26	11 35	1 45	8 45	6 54	6 1	4 44
31	11 8	1 47	8 39	6 35	5 42	4 24
	10 53	1 49	8 33	6 17	5 23	4 4

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.

Eclipses of		Occultations of	
1st Sat.	2nd Sat.	1st Sat.	2nd Sat.
Reappear.	Reappear.	Reappear.	Reappear.
D. H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.	D. H. M.
5 8 3 P.M.	9 2 39 P.M.	13 9 58 P.M.	9 11 16 P.M.
29 8 17 P.M.			
	3rd Satellite.		
	23 8 55 P.M.		
4 10 15 P.M. D.	16 8 44 P.M. D.		
20 8 25 P.M. D.			

OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.

Names of the Stars.	Magni- tude.	Times of disappearance and re-appearance of the Star.			At which limb of the Moon.	Between what latitudes visible.
		D.	H.	M.		
Mars	4	1	5	48 A.M.	Bright	5° N. to 75° N.
		1	7	7 A.M.	Dark	75° N.
30 Piscium	4	21	5	49 A.M.	Bright	5° N. to 85° N.
		21	6	4 A.M.	Dark	85° N.
Zi Ceti	5	23	11	58 P.M.	Bright	North of 9° N.
		24	1	6 A.M.	Dark	9° N.
48 Geminorum	6	30	0	53 A.M.	Bright	North of 24° N.
		30	1	47 A.M.	Dark	24° N.

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON, And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee) or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth in each Lunation.

	New Moon	First Quarter	Full Moon	Last Quarter	Perigee	Apogee
Day	12	18	26	14	27	
Hour	3	10	55	3	7	2
Minute	39	55	38	0	0	
Time	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	A.M.

RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS WHEN PASSING THE MERIDIAN.

Days of the Month.	MERCURY		VENUS		MARS		JUPITER		SATURN		URANUS	
	Right Ascension	North Polar Distance	Right Ascension	North Polar Distance	Right Ascension	North Polar Distance	Right Ascension	North Polar Distance	Right Ascension	North Polar Distance	Right Ascension	North Polar Distance
1	10h. 12m.	82° 23'	10h. 13m.	77° 22'	5h. 49m.	66° 18'	16h. 54m.	112° 12'	3h. 54m.	71° 47'	2h. 41m.	74° 48'
6	10 11	83 16	10 35	79 33	6 3	66 12	16 54	112 12	3 56	71 44	2 41	74 44
11	10 3	83 3	10 59	82 2	6 17	66 12	16 53	112 13	3 57	71 41	2 41	74 47
16	10 3	83 3	11 22	84 30	6 32	66 16	16 54	112 14	3 58	71 33	2 41	74 47
21	9 32	79 7	11 44	87 2	6 46	66 25	16 54	112 16	3 59	71 37	2 41	74 47
26	9 26	77 10	12 6	89 37	7 0	66 38	16 55	112 18	4 0	71 35	2 41	74 47
31	9 34	76 11	12 28	92 12	7 14	66 56	16 56	112 21	4 0	71 35	2 41	74 48

SEPTEMBER

Day of Month	Day of Week	ANNIVERSARIES, OCCURRENCES, FESTIVALS, &c.	SUN.					MOON.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.												HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.				Day of the Year.
			SOUTH.					SOUTH.					Before Sunrise.						After Sunset.						Morning		Afternoon		
			Rises.	Before 1 st o'Clock.	Height above horizon	Sets.	Rises.	Morning.	Morning.	Height above horizon	Sets.	Afternoon.	O'Clock.	2	3	4	5	Moon's Age.	O'Clock.	7	8	9	10	11	12	M	A	M		A
1	Th	<i>Giles.</i> Part, and Bust. sh. begins	5 13	0 11	46	6 46	2 14	10 28	58	6 28								27								0 30	0 55	244	
2	F	London bt., 1666.	5 15	0 30	46	6 44	3 27	11 18	54	6 52								28								1 20	1 40	245	
3	S	Mercury in ascending node at 7h 41m P.M.	5 16	0 49	46	6 42	4 45	Afternoon	49	7 14								○								2 0	2 20	246	
4	S	15TH S. aft. TRIN	5 18	1 9	45	6 40	6 4	0 56	44	7 30								1								2 40	2 55	247	
5	M	Old. St. Bartholo.	5 20	1 28	45	6 37	7 24	1 44	38	7 47								2								3 10	3 30	248	
6	Tu	Length of day 13h 14m	5 21	1 48	45	6 35	8 46	2 33	32	8 5								3								3 50	4 5	249	
7	W	<i>Eunurachus</i>	5 23	2 8	44	6 32	10 8	3 23	26	8 23								4								4 25	4 45	250	
8	Th	Nat. B. V. Mary	5 24	2 28	44	6 29	11 34	4 16	20	3 8 49								5								5 0	5 20	251	
9	F	Length of night 10h 59m	5 26	2 49	43	6 27	Afternoon	5 12	16	9 19								6								5 40	6 5	252	
10	S	Jupiter in conjunction with the Moon at 6h 22m A.M.	5 27	3 10	43	6 25	2 18	6 10	13	9 59								7								6 30	6 55	253	
11	S	16TH S. aft. TRIN.	5 29	3 30	43	6 23	3 30	7 11	12	10 52								8								7 20	7 55	254	
12	M	Fomalhaut due S. at 11h 22m P.M.	5 31	3 51	42	6 20	4 27	8 11	13	11 57								9								8 40	9 25	255	
13	Tu	Alpha Lyrae S. [1852 at 7h 0m P.M.	5 32	4 12	42	6 18	5 10	9 9	15	Morning.								10								10 10	11 0	256	
14	W	D. of Wellingtond.	5 34	4 33	41	6 16	5 42	10 4	18	1 13								11								11 40	No Tide.	257	
15	Th	Alpha Aquilæ souths at 8h 5m P.M.	5 35	4 55	41	6 14	6 9	10 55	23	2 33								12								0 15	0 45	258	
16	F	Buck hunt. ends	5 37	5 16	41	6 12	6 27	11 43	28	3 53								13								1 10	1 35	259	
17	S	<i>Lambert</i>	5 38	5 37	40	6 9	6 44	Morning.		5 11								14								2 0	2 15	260	
18	S	17TH S. aft. TRIN.	5 40	5 58	40	6 7	7 0	0 28	34	6 26								15								2 35	2 55	261	
19	M	Alpha Ophiuchi due S. at 5h 34m P.M.	5 42	6 19	40	6 5	7 15	1 12	40	7 39								16								3 10	3 30	262	
20	Tu	Alpha Cygni S. at 8h 33m P.M.	5 43	6 40	39	6 2	7 30	1 55	45	8 49								17								3 45	4 0	263	
21	W	St. Mat. Emb. W.	5 45	7 23	39	6 0	7 48	2 38	50	9 59								18								4 15	4 30	264	
22	Th	Alpha Aquarii S. at 9h 51m P.M.	5 47	7 23	38	5 58	8 10	3 22	55	11 9								19								4 45	5 5	265	
23	F	Sun enters Libra at 3h 36m A.M. Autumn commences	5 48	7 43	38	5 56	8 36	4 7	58	Afternoon								20								5 15	5 35	266	
24	S	Day decreas. 4h 30m	5 50	8 4	38	5 54	9 10	4 54	61	1 23								21								5 50	6 10	267	
25	S	18TH S. aft. TRIN	5 51	8 25	37	5 52	9 54	5 44	63	2 23								22								6 30	6 50	268	
26	M	St. Cyp. Old Holy Rood	5 53	8 45	37	5 50	10 48	6 34	63	3 14								23								7 20	7 55	269	
27	Tu	as in conjunction with the Moon at 11m P.M.	5 55	9 5	36	5 47	11 53	7 26	62	3 53								24								8 35	9 20	270	
28	W	Alpha Lyrae souths at 6h 2m P.M.	5 56	9 25	36	5 45	Morning.	8 17	60	4 27								25									0 50	271	
29	Th	<i>Michaelmas Day.</i>	5 58	9 45	36	5 43	1 4	9 8	57	4 55								26								11 30	No Tide.	272	
30	F	St. Jerome	5 59	10 4	35	5 41	2 20	9 57	52	5 16								27								0	0 30	273	





THE SEA-SIDE.

OW frequently are we reminded of the remark of Sir Walter Scott, in one of his letters, that he never felt the breezy breath of September but he yearned to be off to the Moors; and that, if deprived, for a whole season, of the smell of the wild heath and the tread of the crackling fern, he felt as though the best month of the year had been blotted out, and he himself cheated of his chief pleasure. This feeling is one in which we all more or less participate;

there is a season of the year when it becomes almost a necessity of our being to cast aside the trammels that bind us to cities; to lay down for a time our burthen of artificial habits and manners; and to behold the face of nature unveiled; luxuriating, like the good steed turned out to grass, on idleness and green pastures. Some, like our great novelist, choose the wide heath as the scene of their pleasant

pastime; others select the solemn wood and renew their acquaintance with mother earth in her hidden recesses; but more, far more, seek the broad ocean, as though it were only in contemplating its illimitable space that their spirits found true freedom. Amidst the rugged rocks, and apparent monotony of the scene, they discover a variety of aspect unknown save to the true lover of the sea and its manifold associations. It is to this genus of wanderers, we confess at once, that we attach our sympathy, and it is with their experiences that we shall have chiefly to do on the present occasion.

If we seek the verge of the "tight little island," on any side but the sunny south, we are reminded of our progress by the gradual disappearance of the woods, which are ill-supplied by the trim little coppices, studding here and there the breezy downs. But the downs themselves, how broad and pleasant

they are, shining alternately like emerald and gold as the sun gleams on them, and is again obscured by some passing cloud. See how the bright light irradiates the mighty plain, and how the shadow rolls away from upland and lowland, as though pursued by some invisible enemy. It is only in scenes like these, where there exist few fixed objects to cast a permanent shadow, that this beautiful phase of nature is visible in perfection; nor is the broad expanse without its still-life interest. Flocks of dreamy sheep wander at will, cropping the thymy herbage, and seeming to invite us to a life idle and pleasant as their own.

Sooth 'twere a pleasant life to lead
With nothing in the world to do
But just to blow a shepherd's reed
The silent season through;
And just to lead a flock to feed—
Sheep, quiet, fond, and few.

But we must linger no longer over the landscape, for the ocean itself is spread far and wide before us, smiling and dancing as gaily as though it held no guilty secrets in its bosom. Vigorous, too, and buoyant it is, as on the day of its creation, without one added wrinkle on its furrowed brow to babble of by-gone ages. Far away in the offing, a fleet of merchantmen are peacefully pursuing their way; bearing to other lands the produce of our own; whilst here and there a long line of smoke marks the track of some vessel independent of wind and tide. "The sea with ships is sprinkled far and wide." Groups of fishing smacks seem sleeping on the waters, the owners of which are silently plying their craft, like those of old on the Sea of Galilee before they were called to become fishers of men; whilst ever and anon some gay pleasure-boat is crossing and recrossing that line of light, but still "hugging" the shore, as though its best security lay in the sheltered bay.

Turn we another angle, and the town will be visible. There it is, rising terrace above terrace, on the face of the chalky cliff. What goodly rows of clean

methodical looking houses! From the complete absence of verdure they cannot seem otherwise than garish, and matter-of-fact, although a profusion of green verandahs, jalousies, and striped sun-blinds affect to bestow a modest appearance upon them, and hold forth promise of grateful shade to be obtained within. In one of these domiciles, despite its deficiency in romantic attractions, we must be content for the present to take up our quarters, and as we are too philosophical to be fastidious, we will set up our staff at the first we come to. But, alas! that the indispensable negotiations as to terms, and the supply of plate and linen, with the additional directions for fish at breakfast, fish at dinner, and fish at tea, with which we do not fail to conclude the bargain, should occupy so much time: ere we have finished, the sea is at full ebb, and the renewal of our intimate acquaintance with it must be deferred until to-morrow. Who could be content, after a long absence, to follow its retreating footsteps, as though speeding a parting guest, instead of meeting with the boisterous welcome due to an old friend, feeling its salt breath on the cheek, and only escaping a closer embrace by a timely and dignified retreat. For the rest of the evening, therefore, we are satisfied with testing the comforts of our new home, resolving on the morrow, despite our solitary condition, to spend a social day amidst our fellow wanderers, and to see something of their occupations and amusements.

Who can be a late riser at the sea-side? Seven o'clock, and one half the inhabitants are astir, for the bright light and the sonorous cry of fresh fish have long ago banished sleep. In accordance with the resolution of last evening, we descend to the shore, and strolling leisurely along, soon find ourselves in the throng of the fish-market. The night has been a still one, and hecatombs of scaly monsters are heaped upon the beach; women and children are eagerly numbering what would seem to be numberless, and hastily packing the supply for London consumption. Railway vans are in waiting, the drivers of which are impatiently looking on, for the train is almost due. At length they are off, and the more immediate demands of the bystanders now claim the attention of the vendors. More than one gentleman of domestic habits is here to be seen who covets the distinction of buying his own fish, and who, choosing the largest as the best, will inevitably incur a reproof on his return home, for purchasing twice as much as is wanted. Amphibious-looking women, in blue petticoats, are gazing about in search of patrons for their bathing machines, and triumphantly direct the attention to certain indistinct objects which are disporting themselves at a little distance among the waves. Now and then a group of laughing children pass by; some piteous-looking wight, perhaps, among them, lagging behind with his nurse, and claiming our sympathy from his evident disinclination for the salt-water breakfast before him: despite his new sorrowful aspect, he will, by and bye, be seen with a cloudless brow and fresh roses on his cheek, for his duty of the day will have been accomplished.

Having had full opportunity of observing the features of the early morning employments, we bend our steps homewards, gratifying our curiosity on the way by occasional furtive glances at the family parties which surround the more or less well-spread breakfast tables. That the amusement is not a dignified one must be admitted; but the open windows offer temptations almost too strong to be resisted; and, in palliation of the impropriety, it may be added, that in a few minutes more we are cheerfully contributing in a similar way to the entertainment of strollers like ourselves.

The first symptom of activity after breakfast is a general adjournment of the gentlemen to the news-rooms, to read the newspapers. Here they encounter many fellow voyagers: the discussion on politics, commenced on board the steam-packet is now renewed, and the stranger of yesterday progresses into the acquaintance of to-day. Meanwhile, groups of ladies and children have dispersed themselves along the beach—for what new-comers to the sea-side can ever resolve to turn their steps inland? Some we notice with fine telescopes, eager to see; some with fine clothes, willing to be seen. Here recline a family of distinction, to whom the sea-side offers repose, after a season of excitement. Their dress is studiously plain: the morning *negligé*, the wrapping shawl, the coarse straw bonnet, with its rich ribbon; the well-tended children, and scarcely less well-tended lap-dog; the clean, foreign-looking books which they read, or seem to read; the work or sketch leisurely pursued; all breathe an atmosphere of repose and May Fair. Other groups there are, far more showy in external seeming; and well it may be so, for their gay season is but commencing, and the preparations which it has cost them weeks of thought and labour to mature, here make their *début* for our benefit. The children, too, are more gaily attired than their aristocratic associates. But at the commencement of life human nature is the same: the young lord and little master dig with equal fervour in the sand, paddle with the same delight in their miniature canals, and attach the same inestimable value to shells and seaweed. Now and then a mysterious-looking personage, half sailor, half landman, is seen to approach and address the various groups. He offers French shoes, veritable eau-de-Cologne, and hints of matchless shawls which can only be exhibited at their own residences.

Between working, reading, chatting, and walking, the morning imperceptibly wears away; the children find themselves hungry, and are even willing to go home; the shore begins to wear a deserted appearance, for every one is on the move. When the claims of lunch or dinner have been duly satisfied, and an hour's grace allowed for rest, the flymen begin to look alert, and donkey chaises obtrude themselves successfully on the notice. Carriages full of animated faces are soon driving leisurely along the coast, whilst some of the oldest inhabitants may turn their horses' heads inland. A few well-mounted equestrians are visible, and many a young aspirant to a good seat and graceful carriage is taking her first "road lessons" under the eye of an experienced guardian. Nor must we omit, amongst the various resources for killing time at the sea-side, its libraries and bazaars. At this period of the day all are crowded with idlers, searching for

new novels or raffling for wax flowers which they never win. So pass the hour of the day, pleasantly and uselessly enough. The scattered branches of the various families do not fail to re-assemble at the welcome early tea-time, for no attention is here paid to the regulation hours of town life; all eat when they are hungry—which, by the way, occurs very frequently; and fashionable papas and mamas enjoy a substantial six o'clock tea with their little ones, undisturbed by the fear of detection, and the consequent disgrace which might attach to such an act at home.

The slanting rays of a glowing sun now proclaim that it is about setting, and this beautiful sight will prove an irresistible attraction to the meditative, the romantic, the poetical, and indeed to the enthusiastic of every description. We ourselves once more seek the shore, wander dreamily onward, thinking of the eyes that so long ago watched with us the glories of a scene like this; of friends far away, the estranged, the dead, till a merry laugh and the passing odour of a cigar snap the chain of thought; but the musing mood continues, and we turn to speculate on the group before us. It consists of two gentlemen on the sunny side of thirty; three graceful girls from five to ten years younger, and four children—a goodly family, were they all of one household; but this can scarcely be. The little ones are playing somewhat too harmoniously together to be brothers and sisters, and he of the light wide-awake is listening too anxiously and deferentially to the words of the dark-haired lady to be aught nearer than a cousin. But what is the subject under discussion? The donkey-boy and his mother are urging a lengthened ride for the youngest girl, who, whip in hand, has already taken possession of her Rosinante. There is apparently some objection on the part of the elder sister, but who could resist such eloquently-pleading looks and words? She has all but yielded, when the announcement of the boy, on the authority of the telescope, that what they supposed to be the smoke of the steamer is only a cloud, finally decides the question. Papa is not likely to arrive for some little time, so they start on their expedition, the elder sister going, of course, to take charge of the younger, and the cousin to keep watch and ward over herself. Meanwhile the black wide-awake, notwithstanding his listless air and attitude, will make the most of his time with the stately beauty. They will talk poetry, if not sentiment; she will listen to his words, and wonder that the same quotations never sounded so sweetly before; they will at last relapse into the silence that is eloquent, and the children will ask questions in vain.

We must linger no longer near them, but tread softly onward, lest the words of the poet which are on our very lips should break the spell which the gathering twilight casts over us all.

One evening as the sun went down,
Gleaming the mountains bare and brown,
I wandered on the shore;
And such a blaze o'er ocean spread,
And beauty on the meek earth shed,
I never saw before.

I was not lonely: dwellings fair
Were scattered round and shining there;
Gay groups were on the green,
Of children, wild with reckless glee,
And parents that could child-like be
With them, and in that scene.

And on the sea, that looked of gold,
Each toy-like skiff and vessel bold
Gilded, and yet seemed still.
While sounds rose in the quiet air,
That, mingling, made sweet music there,
Surpassing minstrel's skill:

The breezy murmur of the shore—
Joy's laugh re-echoed o'er and o'er,
Alike by sire and child—
The whistle shrill—the broken song—
The far-off flute notes, lingering long—
The lark's strain, rich and wild!

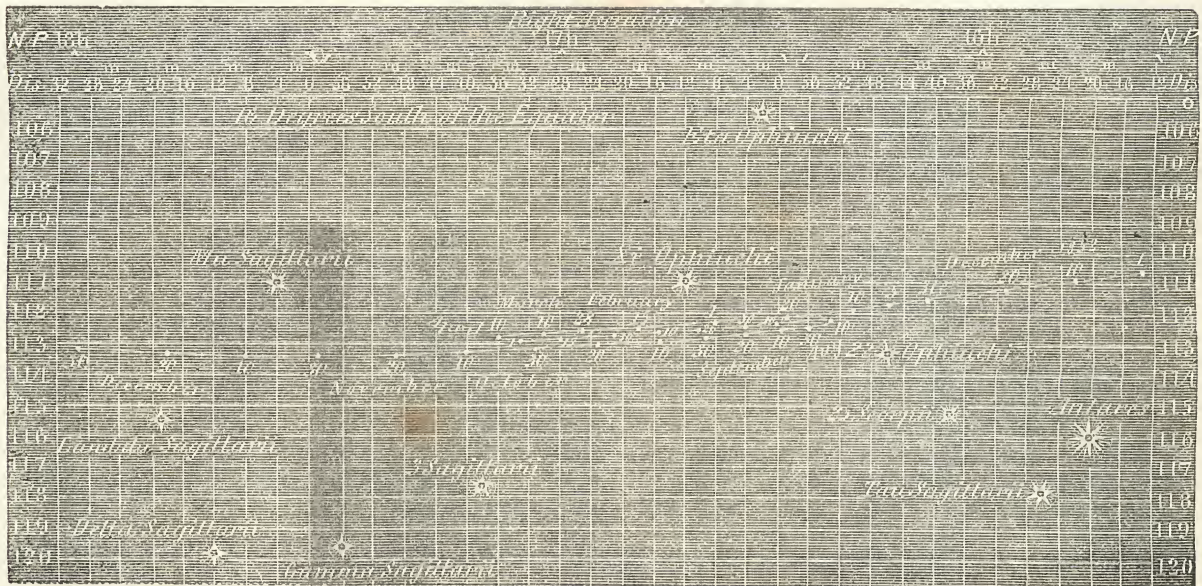
'Twas sunset in the world around,
And, looking inward, so I found
'Twas sunset in the soul;
Nor grief nor mirth was burning there,
But musings sweet and visions fair
In placid beauty stole.

But such sweet moods the human mind,
Though seeking oft, may seldom find,
Or, finding, force to stay;
Like dews upon the drooping flower,
They, having shone their little hour,
Dry up—or fall away.

But though all pleasures take their flight,
Some few can leave memorials bright
For many an after year;
This sunset, that dull night will shade,
These visions, which must quickly fade,
Will half-immortal memory braid
For me, when far from here.

In a few hours more the sea will assume its last and loveliest phase beneath the beams of the rising moon. At first we shall only suspect its presence from the glittering ripples of the expanse before us, but gradually the whole scene will be bathed in the cold silvery light; and innumerable stars peeping forth, one by one, will be reflected in the mighty mirror beneath them!

SEPTEMBER.



Ecl'ic, 6 degrees to one inch.

THE PATH OF JUPITER FROM DECEMBER 1, 1852, TO DECEMBER 31, 1853.

THE SUN is situated north of the Equator till the 23rd, at 3h. 37m. A.M., when he crosses the Equator; going southward, he passes from the sign Virgo (the Virgin) to that of Libra (the Balance) at this time, and Autumn commences; he having been in the former sign 30 days 20 hours and 44 minutes. His distance from the Earth on the first day is 95,816,100 miles, decreasing to 95,063,800 by the last day. He rises between the E. by N. and E. points of the horizon till the 23rd, when he rises due E., and sets due W. The times of his rising, setting, and setting, in common clock time, together with his angular measure above the horizon at his greatest altitude, are given daily in the calendar pages.

On the 1st the Moon is in the constellation Leo; is in Virgo on the 4th; in Libra on the 7th; and in Scorpio and Ophiuchus on the 9th. On the 11th she passes into Sagittarius; on the 13th is in Capricornus; on the 15th in Aquarius; on the 16th in Pisces; on the 17th in Cetus; on the 19th again in Pisces; on the 20th in Cetus; and, skirting the boundaries of Cetus and Aries, enters Taurus on the 21st. On the 23rd she is in Gemini; on the 27th in Cancer; on the 28th in Leo; and on the 31st in Virgo.

She is above the horizon when the Sun is below, during the morning hours, after the 15th; and during the night hours, from the 8th to the 23rd.

She is on the Equator on the 5th; is at her greatest south declination on the 11th; crosses the Equator on the 18th; is at her greatest north declination on the 26th; and on the 30th is about 11° north of the Equator.

She is near Mercury on the 1st, Venus on the 5th, Jupiter on the 10th, Uranus on the 21st; Saturn on the 22nd, and Mars on the 27th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Leo till the 21st, and in Virgo to the end of the month. He rises, till the 5th, at 3h. 36m. A.M.; on the 10th, at 3h. 54m.; on the 17th, at 4h. 34m. A.M.; and on the last day at 5h. 57m. A.M. These times precede those of the Sun by 1h. 37m. on the 1st, increasing to 1h. 44m. on the 5th; then decreasing to 1h. 33m. by the 10th, to 1h. 4m. by the 17th, and to 2 minutes at the end of the month. He sets before the Sun till the end of the month. He is well situated for observation at the beginning of the month be-

fore sunrise. He rises in the E.N.E. at the beginning of the month, and more easterly each day till on the 18th he rises E. by N., and on the 28th at the E. point of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 1st and Regulus on the 8th; is at his greatest western elongation on the 4th; in perihelion on the 8th; and in superior conjunction with the Sun on the 29th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in December.

VENUS is in the constellation Virgo till the 24th, and in Libra to the end of the month. She is an evening star, and sets a little S. of W. at the beginning; at the W. by S. on the 10th, and at the W.S.W. on the 24th; at 7h. 40m. on the 1st, at 7h. 10m. on the 15th, and at 6h. 42m. on the last day. These times follow those of sunset by 54m. on the 1st, decreasing to 52m. on the 4th, and increasing to 1h. 1m. on the last day. She is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 5th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in November.

MARS is in the constellation Gemini till the 15th, and in Cancer to the end of the month. He is visible from a little after midnight; rising, on the 1st, at 0h. 19m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 0h. 9m. A.M.; and on the last, at 1h. 58m. P.M. near the N.E. by E. point of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 27th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in October.

JUPITER is in the constellation Scorpio till the 11th, and in that of Ophiuchus from the 12th. He is an evening star, and sets on the 1st at 10h. 13m. P.M.; on the 15th, at 9h. 30m. P.M.; and on the last day, at 8h. 30m. P.M. near the S.W. by W. point of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars; is in quadrature with the Sun on the 8th, and near the Moon on the 10th. He souths at an altitude of 16° 10' at the beginning, decreasing to 15° 48' by the end of the month. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the above diagram.

(Continued on page 53.)

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.						JUPITER'S SATELLITES.				OCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.				
	Mercury.		Venus.		Mars.		Jupiter.		Saturn.		Uranus.				
	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Morning.	Afternoon.			
1	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.			
6	10 52	1 50	8 32	6 13	5 19	4 0	3 40	3 20	2 40	2 20	2 3	2 3			
11	11 2	1 55	8 26	5 55	5 0	3 40	3 20	2 40	2 20	2 3	2 3	2 3			
16	11 15	1 57	8 13	5 20	4 21	3 0	2 40	2 20	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3			
21	11 30	2 0	8 6	5 2	4 1	2 40	2 20	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3			
26	11 44	2 3	7 59	4 45	3 41	2 20	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3			
31	11 53	2 6	7 53	4 32	3 25	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3	2 3			

TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON, And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee) or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth in each Lunation.											
	3d.	11h.	42m.	A.M.							
NEW MOON ..	10	8	58	A.M.							
FIRST QUARTER ..	16	10	12	A.M.							
FULL MOON ..	24	10	33	A.M.							
LAST QUARTER ..	8	7	0	P.M.							
PERIGEE ..	23	9	0	P.M.							
APOGEE ..											

RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS WHEN PASSING THE MERIDIAN.											
MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.	
Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.	Right Ascension.	North Polar Distance.
1 9h. 37m	76° 8'	12h. 32m	92° 43'	7h. 16m	67° 6'	16h. 56m	112° 21'	4h. 0m	71° 34'	2h. 41m	74° 49'
6 9 59	76 49	12 54	95 18	7 30	67 22	16 58	112 24	4 1	71 34	2 41	74 50
11 10 30	78 53	13 16	97 50	7 43	67 49	17 0	112 28	4 1	71 35	2 40	74 52
16 11 3	81 58	13 39	100 18	7 56	68 18	17 2	112 32	4 1	71 36	2 40	74 54
21 11 38	85 39	14 1	102 40	8 9	68 50	17 4	112 36	4 0	71 37	2 39	74 56
26 12 11	89 33	14 24	104 56	8 21	69 25	17 7	112 40	4 0	71 39	2 39	74 59
30 12 30	91 54	14 43	106 33	8 31	69 55	17 9	112 43	4 0	71 41	2 38	75 1

OCTOBER

Day of Month	Day of Week	ANNIVERSARIES, OCCURRENCES, FESTIVALS, &c.	SUN.					MOON.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.												HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE				Day of the Year																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
			SOUTHS.					SOUTHS.					Before Sunrise.						After Sunset.						Morning		Afternoon																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
			Rises.	Before 12 o'clock			Sets.	Rises. Morning.	Afternoon			Sets. Afternoon.	O'Clock.						O'Clock.						Morning	Afternoon																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
				h.	m.	deg.			h.	m.	deg.		h.	m.	deg.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			9	10		11	12																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
1	S	Remigius. Pheasant sh. beg.	6	1	10	23	35	5	40	3	40	10	46	47	5	35																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							





THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

O everyone who has read the ancient and amusing apologue of "Reynard the Fox" (and who is there in these days of translations who has not?) the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's Park will scarcely fail to recall the amusing report which it contains of the parliament of the animals assembled, before the lion king, for the purpose of legislating upon

the delinquencies of that astute quadruped. Within its pleasant circle of shrubs and flowers, we shall find representatives of animal constituencies in every quarter of the globe; from the North Pole to the Torrid Zone; from Chili to Cochinchina; from Nova Zembla to New Zealand. Their sphere of action has, it is true, become somewhat restricted, their power for good and evil somewhat circumscribed, since the time of Reincke; but here they have certainly acquired some very compensating advantages. Never, surely, were any members

of the brute creation the objects of more tender solicitude, even in the palmy days of the White Cat and Helicabalus. The Houyhnhnms, in whose kingdom, according to that veracious chronicler Mr. Gulliver, man was the inferior being, were not more dutifully waited upon by him than are the denizens of this animal colony. Here some thirty attendants are daily occupied in supplying their requirements; every variety of viand that animal epicurism can desire is forthcoming to meet their several heavy *pièces de résistance* of the bullock and the horse, to the lighter delicacies of mice and minnows; every plan that ingenuity and science can devise is called into requisition to secure their comfort; a select detachment of the police force is provided to shield them from the importunate attentions of too troublesome visitors; special means of defence are provided, where necessary, against enemies from with-

out, and appropriate, aids to recreation for the employment of their leisure within. Such of them as are delicate have the very atmosphere adapted to their constitutions; and, should any of the ordinary maladies of life find entrance into this Zoological Utopia the best advice during illness, and even change of air afterwards, are secured for its fortunate inmates. With such advantages, it is scarcely a matter of surprise that, like the travelled monkey of the fable, they should appear as reconciled to regular dinner hours, limited domestic accommodation, and morning visitors, as though they had been accustomed all their days to those comforts of civilised life.

How small a number of the gay visitors who saunter here on a Saturday to hear the band, or on a Sunday to display themselves in all the aristocratic exclusiveness of Fellows' friends; how few of their hardworking brothers and sisters who toil up from the remotest ends of the town to see the "birds and beasts" for sixpence on a Monday, have any adequate idea of the difficulties which have been surmounted, and the springs of action which have been set in motion, to assemble the various members of this animal congress. Consuls have laboured for it; Monarchs have contributed to it; Governments have employed their far-extending resources in its behalf; and even trading companies have borne it in mind when negotiating with the primitive inhabitants of remote lands. Hence it is, that we are enabled to boast a collection of living zoological examples unequalled by any similar institution in the whole world, and possessing elements of interest for every age and every class.

To the visitor of mature years, who strolls in from the bustle of the great world for an hour's quiet enjoyment, they will appal with associations at every turn. Is he a traveller? Let him have wandered to the farthest ends of the globe, he will here recognise ancient acquaintances. Here is the spring-bok he has hunted in Africa; and the cobra, deadliest of serpents, from whose fangs he had so narrow an escape in his days of Griffinhood at Madras; the bison, upon whose hump he has epicurised with the Ioway Indians; and the alligator, ho

never could get a shot at on the banks of the Nile. The archæologist, too, may here minister to his own peculiar hobby, and find scope for his organ of veneration in the sacred ibis of the ancient Egyptians, or pierce for a moment the mists of centuries as he gazes on the asp of Cleopatra. Belongs he merely to that numerous class who love to feast on horrors, he may, if he so will it, stand on the very den of the lion, or watch the "eye malign" of the tiger glaring at him through an half-inch grating. And if, more fortunate still, it has been his lot to find in the modes of life of the animal creation his daily labour, like the indefatigable Mr. Mitchell; the pleasantest of "Recreations," like Mr. Broderip; or have discovered springs of interest in them even when dead, like the enthusiastic Mr. Waterton; he may find here a field of enjoyment for which the world affords no parallel. To the child, when, quitting for the morning his "Lessons in Natural History" and his "Noah's Ark," he is permitted for the first time to behold the heroes of his studies and the companions of his play-hours in actual life, the Zoological Gardens are a veritable paradise. There is even delight to him in a mere walk round the circle in the Regent's Park in which they are located, upon the chance of hearing the, to him, musical roar of the lion, or catching an illicit glance at some Bruin at the top of his pole.

I remember as though it were yesterday—it matters not how long ago it really was—the happy day, when a month's good conduct and the opportune visit from the country of my prettiest of cousins, Kate, procured me my first entry into this Garden of Eden. The delight of a walk up that well-kept gravel path, hand-in-hand with the object of my devoted admiration, is with me as though it were yesterday. The fact is, my little cousin was my first love; and why not? If I were but ten years old and she a year younger, had we not love enough and to spare for three times the age? First, I recollect there were the bears, that dwelt in the pit with the pole in the middle, at the end of the walk. There was a peculiar fascination about the bears; whether this was attributable to their being the first "*personæ*" of the drama, and possessing, therefore, the prestige of novelty, or whether the indefinable charm arose from the shade of possibility which may have suggested itself to us of falling in, and being summarily devoured, like the apocryphal baby held out by nurse as a warning against approaching too close to the abyss, I cannot say, but the bears were certainly the lions of the show. There was the industrious bear, which earned a precarious livelihood by climbing up the pole for the guerdon of a piece of bun, held tantalizingly at the end of a stick, and always dropped off in the moment of fruition; the tyrannical bear, whose strength disdained such labour, and who contented himself with monopolising all the eatables that fell to the bottom; and the meek, ill-used Bruin, whose lean carcass and ragged skin betokened the victim, and which, either from obtuseness of intellect or consciousness of weakness, defeated all our efforts to make special provision for him, even when we dropped the food almost into his mouth. Then there was the lion, reposing disdainfully in a corner, and insensible alike to blandishment or insult; and the catlike panther next door, ever on the move, pacing from end to end of his narrow home, as though seeking rest and never finding it. How proud was I to awaken the tender solicitude of my little companion by the valour of my approach to the bars of the hyena's cage; or her wonder at my erudition, when recounting to her the time-honoured legend of the lady that frightened away the tiger with a flirt of her parasol. Then there was the Polar bear, that could not be prevailed upon to go into the water; and the beavers, that would not come out; and the monkeys, which at that time possessed detached residences at the tops of poles, to which they were fastened by sliding chains. One black malefactor acquired in both our eyes an interest far beyond any that his personal attractions could claim for him—for he was by no means the most ugly—by reason of his having, a short time previously, bitten off the thumb of a gentleman with whom we had the good fortune to be personally acquainted. There was to us a mysterious horror about this criminal which rendered him irresistibly attractive; indeed, I am by no means sure that, generally, the evil characters were not the most popular with us. For the deer and the ducks we cared but little, but in the wolves and hyenas we revelled greatly. Of the other attractions of that happy day I have only a dim recollection, but sure I am that if the second lustrum of my life boasted a special era of bliss, this was it.

My second and last trip to the Zoological Gardens was of a more recent date. Paying an early visit, a few months ago, at the house of a friend of some years' standing, where I enjoyed the privilege of presenting myself at unpresentable hours, I was made aware, by an unwonted bustle in the house, that an expedition was on the tapis. That it was one likely to be somewhat trying to the patience and complexion of mamma I divined from the circumstance, that on the breakfast table, beside the parasol, lay a volume of the "Standard Library," and one of those hateful portable sunblinds wherewith ladies are wont to disfigure themselves on sunny days, and against which, in the name of the opposite sex, I hereby enter a solemn protest. Nurse's best bonnet and Sunday shawl indicated that baby was to be of the party; and an unwonted bustle of small footsteps in the hall at an hour usually devoted to "backboard" and "Mangnall's Questions" proclaimed that the holiday was to be general. "It is Kitty's birthday," said my friend, glancing at a little flaxen-headed image of herself, who was waiting with demure impatience for the toss up in the air for which I had been unwary enough, on some former occasion, to afford her a precedent. "It is Kitty's birthday, and we are going, in her honor, to spend the morning at the Zoological Gardens. You had better come too," she added, "and afford us the advantage of your escort and knowledge of natural history." Disclaiming with equal truth and humility any deep acquaintance with the mysteries of zoology, I was easily persuaded to make one of an expedition which promised, from old associations, to be an amusing one. In a few minutes we were on our road, a merry party, and I found myself wending my way to the "happy valley" of that pleasant holiday of

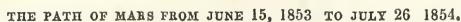
my childhood, and with the same companion on my arm. Yes, my lady friend was my cousin Kate herself, who, unmindful of the plighted vows of nine years old, had forsaken me at nineteen for "my own familiar friend;" and, alas for the callousness of man, I had survived it. From being, as Præd has it—

The first, the only one,
Her heart had thought of for a minute

I had subsided into the unsatisfactory honours of godpapa and Cousin Jerry (my name is Gerald, by the way, and not Jerry) to a little miniature copy of the original, almost as pretty and five times as mischievous.

While I was thus recalling the "airy edifices" of my early days, and wondering how it happens that those we build with all the experiences of age are not a whit more substantial, we had arrived at our destination, and the gardens opened to us in all the glory of a July morning. The blue tickets which were necessary of yore to secure admission, and which gave one all the trouble of acquiring a privilege without any of the advantages attending it, had yielded to the more liberal spirit of the times: we had only to pay our money, and the little world with all its attractions was our own. But what a change had taken place since my last visit; new buildings had arisen in every direction, and fresh enclosures extended on every side. On the right had started up a new aviary, picturesque enough for the feathered heroes of the Countess d'Aulnois herself. Here were choice birds of every race and every clime, dwelling together like the happy family, though considerably more active in their felicity. Here the New Guinea pigeon had found a corner worthy to be the depository of her eggs, the bower bird had erected the leafy home to which he owes his name, and the screamer was busy justifying his peculiar appellation with as keen a zest as though enjoying the free expanse of his native woods. In neighbouring enclosures (the terror of all around him), stalked in sullen dignity the Marabou stork, with his dangerous bill, bald pate, and much-prized feathers; the kangaroo was hopping about in peace, without fear of the hunter; and the reindeer enjoying an unquiet rest after the labours of the Lapland sledge. We turned to the bear-pit, as to a cherished memory; but, alas, death had been busy in the family: the labours of the industrious bear were over; the tyrant had yielded to a tyranny more potent than his own; and the victim slept the sleep of the just. The lions and tigers—or, to be scientific, the *carnivora*—had exchanged the clumsy wooden houses of former days for airy apartments, bedroom and sitting-room, in a long well-built terrace, of which we have a glimpse in the preceding page, where they seemed to dwell in tolerable unanimity. Further east rose a building, also new to us, which we found to be specially devoted to the eagles and vultures. There was something peculiarly interesting in thus having members of the same family from every quarter of the globe assembled under one roof. Motionless, perched upon pinnacles of rock, as though disdaining to stir in their narrow homes, sat the Imperial eagle, bird of Jove, worthy to be the emblem of sovereignty, from the sands of Africa; and its golden relative from the antipodes of North America; the Australian eagle rough and rugged as the wildest forests Leichardt ever traversed; and the erne that still lingers in our own. Here, too, grandest perhaps of all, ever immovable, sat the bald sea eagle, with its white head and old and storm-beaten front, eloquent of wreck and tempest, like an embodied spirit of evil.

After a glance at a large building in the course of erection, filled with glass compartments, intended for the reception of fish, and where we may one day make the personal acquaintance of the whale and shark, we crossed the tunnel, and found ourselves on the other side of the road. Here, amid such a profusion of zoological novelties, the difficulty was to determine where to go first. Mamma, I suspect, not without visions of a seat, was eloquent on the attractions of the humming-bird house. I had an acquaintanceship to renew with a pair of elands, the bequest to the society of its last president, the late Lord Derby, and which were old friends of mine at Knowsley. The younger members of our party, whom we could not prevail upon to be tired, having exhausted all their supply of provender by a somewhat prodigal liberality to the monkeys, were for returning to the refreshment-room, to lay in fresh stores for the elephant. All this was, however, duly accomplished, and more too. Here we encountered the rhinoceros—surely the unicorn of Scripture—looking, with its gigantic snags and scaly hide, like some link, which nature had forgotten to break, with the wonders of the Preadamite world. To the hippopotamus we also paid our homage. He was lying lazily on his side, and we were his only visitors. I thought of the time when polkas were composed in his name, and his portrait adorned the print-shops; when his *tevels* were more crowded than even those of Royalty, and he wrested the honors of Lionhood from the Nepalese Ambassador himself; and I sighed involuntarily over the instability of human greatness. Of the attractions of the reptile-house at the other end of the walk—of the intermittent crackling of the rattle-snakes—of the alligators scuttling in their miniature Niles, and the dread pythons dragging their slow lengths along in the sun, in their homes of glass—of the chimpanzee, shocking from its likeness to humanity, causing an involuntary doubt where instinct ends and reason commences—space is wanting me to tell. Morning had warmed into mid-day, and mid-day had waned to afternoon, ere we took our departure. The hour's expedition to please the children had proved a day's enjoyment to ourselves. "The Standard Library" had yielded precedence to Mr. Mitchell's pleasantly-written guide-book, which is not only a useful catalogue for the occasion, but an agreeable companion afterwards. Every object we had encountered seemed to have suggested a thought, or awakened an association; and we wended our way homewards, full of musings on the mightiness of those works of creation, which, while almost miracles to our childhood, are hardly less objects of reverential wonder to our maturer years.



(Continued on page 53)

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NOVEMBER

Day of Month	Day of Week	ANNIVERSARIES, OC- CURRENCES, PES- TIVALS, &c.	SUN.					MOON.					DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.												HIGH WATER		Day of the Year.		
			SOUTH.					SOUTH.					Before Sunrise.						After Sunset.						AT LONDON BRIDGE.				
			Rises.	Before 12 o'clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Before 12 o'clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Before 12 o'clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	Morn: g.	Afternoon	Morn: g.	Afternoon				
1	Tu	All Saints	6 56	16 18	24	4 32	6 45	11 54	25	4 49																			305
2	W	Mich. T. begins	6 56	16 18	23	4 31	8 16			5 16																			306
3	Th	Venus in conjunction with Jupiter at 9h 31m P.M.	6 59	16 18	23	4 29	9 45	1 51	15	5 50																			307
4	F	Will. III. 1. 1688	7 1	16 17	23	4 27	11 8	2 54	12	6 36																			308
5	S	Gump. Plot, 1605	7 2	16 16	22	4 26	Afternoon	3 57	12	7 35																			309
6	S	24TH S. aft. TRIN.	7 4	16 13	22	4 24	1 13	4 58	13	8 48																			310
7	M	[Leonard]	7 6	16 10	22	4 23	1 53	5 56	16	10 7																			311
8	Tu	Length of night 14h 45m	7 7	16 6	21	4 22	2 20	6 49	20	11 27																			312
9	W	P. of Wales b. 1841	7 9	16 0	21	4 20	2 42	7 38	24	Morn: g.																			313
10	Th	[L. Mayor's day]	7 10	15 55	21	4 19	2 59	8 23	29	0 43																			314
11	F	St. Martin. Half-	7 12	15 48	21	4 18	3 14	9 6	35	1 59																			315
12	S	[Quarter day]	7 14	15 40	20	4 16	3 28	9 48	41	3 17																			316
13	S	25TH S. aft. TRIN.	7 16	15 32	20	4 14	3 43	10 30	46	4 22																			317
14	M	Uranus in conjunction with the Moon at 2h 4m P.M.	7 18	15 23	20	4 12	3 59	11 13	51	5 33																			318
15	Tu	Machutus	7 20	15 13	20	4 11	4 17	11 57	56	6 43																			319
16	W	Saturn in conjunction with the Moon at 5h 20m A.M.	7 22	15 2	19	4 10	4 39	Morning.		7 52																			320
17	Th	Hugh, Bish. Linc.	7 23	14 50	19	4 9	5 7	0 43	59	9 1																			321
18	F	[Q. Eliz. acces.]	7 25	14 38	19	4 8	5 43	1 31	62	10 5																			322
19	S	[Ed. K. & Mar.]	7 27	14 24	19	4 7	6 27	2 21	63	11 5																			323
20	S	26TH S. aft. TRIN.	7 28	14 10	18	4 6	7 23	3 11	63	11 52																			324
21	M	Prs. Royal b. 1840	7 30	13 55	18	4 5	8 27	4 16	2	Afternoon																			325
22	Tu	St. Cecilia	7 31	13 39	18	4 3	9 37	4 51	60	1 0																			326
23	W	Clement. Old	7 33	13 23	18	4 2	10 51	5 39	56	1 24																			327
24	Th	[Martinmas day]	7 35	13 5	17	4 0	Morning.	6 26	52	1 43																			328
25	F	Mich. T. ends	7 36	12 47	17	3 58	0 7	7 12	47	2 0																			329
26	S	Mars quadrature to Sun at 4h 51m P.M.	7 38	12 28	17	3 57	1 25	7 59	41	2 17																			330
27	S	ADVENT SUNDAY	7 39	12 8	17	3 56	2 45	8 47	34	2 33																			331
28	M	[P. Mary Adel. b.]	7 40	11 47	17	3 55	4 10	9 37	28	2 51																			332
29	Tu	Night increased 5h 22m	7 42	11 26	17	3 54	5 38	10 31	22	3 13																			333
30	W	St. Andrew	7 44	11 4	16	3 54	7 8	11 30	17	3 41																			334





THE CHARADE.

THE philosophy which we are enabled to summon to our aid under the minor disappointments of every-day life, receives generally, it is to be feared, but very inadequate support from the insignificance of the circumstances of the evil, or our own inability to change them. Among the small grievances of life, there are few that test the patience more severely than a wet day in the country, when we have made up our minds and our plans for a fine one. Never was this truth more thoroughly recognised than among the inmates of Airedale, a pleasant country-house in one of the northern counties, as they assembled at an early breakfast on a real November morning, and contemplated the aspect of the world without. This proverbially gloomy month had, in truth, seldom sustained its reputation by a day more thoroughly

dispiriting. The drizzling rain clouded the windows of the cheery-looking breakfast-room, and the blaze of the fire almost obscured the faint glimmering of daylight which found its way in through the fog and mist. The wind wailed dismally among the trees, but seemed to have no energy for more earnest demonstrations. Nature looked depressed rather than angry, and therefore held forth less hope of a favourable reaction. It seemed difficult to believe that the sun had ever shone upon the world, and still more incredible that it should ever smile again through that dense unbroken mass of grey clouds. Whilst the party in question are discussing, with various degrees of dolour, their breakfast and their interrupted plans, we will take a glance at its more prominent members. The mistress of the house, Mrs. Ormerod was one of those

genial persons in whom Nature is wont, not too often, to associate that combination of virtues which, when united, constitute the pattern hostess. She welcomed her guests with a cordiality as genuine as though they were members of her own family, and allowed them to be happy in their own way. She was never known to break up a pleasant excursion by exacting a punctual return to dinner, or to discourage the irregularity of an impromptu party from any fears of indignant subordinates. She had been long a widow, and her time and thoughts were chiefly devoted to rendering life and home as pleasant as possible to the two sons who represented her surviving family. The guests, by whose instrumentality she was contributing to this desirable aim on the occasion of which we are speaking, included two pretty sisters, Blanche and Julia Wyndham, who were extremely ornamental, if not very useful; Kate Southern, a niece of Mrs. Ormerod, a lively and clever girl, who had been brought up in Paris; extremely popular, especially with the gentlemen, though regarded with some distrust by one or two country beaux, whom she had alarmed by an unlucky, and, as the other ladies agreed, a very flippant remark, that she "would undertake to turn any young man inside out in half an hour;" a bride and bridegroom, rather too much interested in each other to be very interesting to other people; a Mr. Singleton, who, having a fine tenor voice—to which, by the way, he was indebted for his invitation—sang and dressed à la Mario; several agreeable girls, with no very marked characteristics; an odd mamma or two; and sundry bachelor intimates of Langford Ormerod, much addicted to field-sports and billiards.

The particular day on which the fates and the weather had thrown this circle upon its own resources for entertainment, was to have been more than usually eventful. The gentlemen had made up their minds for a capital day's hunting, and the ladies had promised to ride over with them to the "meet," prior to a visit which had been for some days in contemplation to the lions of a neighbouring cathedral town. It was agreed during breakfast, by a large majority, that to go out on such a day, when it was possible to stay at home,

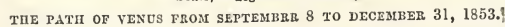
would be little short of insanity; but a small band of devoted sportsmen, with Langford Ormerod at their head, announced their intention of adhering, as far as they were concerned, to the original arrangement, and incurred thereby the sovereign displeasure of the ladies. It was not flattering at any time to be deserted for the society of fox-hunting squires; but that a helter-skelter gallop through rain and wind should be deemed preferable to a quiet day with themselves, was positively unendurable. They accordingly wished the delinquents much enjoyment in tones more or less severe: embittered the short interval before their departure by a double meed of kind words and sweet looks to their more dutiful cavaliers; and, finally, more rigorous still, vouchsafed not one glance from the windows at the irreproachable horsemanship and critical attire, which a delay of rather unnecessary length at the hall door afforded them ample opportunity of admiring. The truants at length rode away: and the desolate damsels, whose spirits rather flagged when their pride no longer sustained them, proceeded to dispose of themselves as they best could. Blanche Wyndham seated herself on a *cauaise* with Edgar Ormerod, whose bent, we may mention, was decidedly literary. His proposal to read to her a few of his unpublished sonnets had been so gracefully received, as quite to decide in his mind a point on which he had long been doubtful, viz., whether blondes or brunettes have usually most soul. Julia Wyndham retired to her room, to devise new trimmings for a favourite dress; the bride had composed herself to the task of winding wools, in which she was dutifully aided by her lord and master; and Miss Southern, armed with a volume of Charles de Bernard, ensconced herself in an arm-chair, within view of their innocent flirtation—a young gentleman fresh from college, whom she had proposed to amuse herself by drawing out, having taken alarm at the preponderance of ladies, and retired to the more congenial seclusion of the stables; two or three matrons settled themselves in a corner for a quiet gossip; Mr. Singleton retired to the piano to practice; and the *Ami de Maison*, whom we have forgotten to introduce, a gentlemanly bachelor, who made indifferent puns, and had been younger, sensible of a general failure in his efforts to make himself agreeable, took refuge in political statistics and the *Quarterly*. So passed the morning wearily away until the “coming” of “the good time” of luncheon. It was an infinite relief to every one. The fair Blanche had begun to evince symptoms of weariness, and her Tasso to doubt whether, after all, her character did possess that appreciation of genius which her style of beauty had induced him to expect; nay, he had half resolved to transfer his allegiance to her sister. The talkers in the corner had begun to wax rather ill-natured, and the bride somewhat sleepy; Mr. Singleton had sung himself hoarse; and all were hungry, and glad of a change. Half an hour’s application to the creature comforts, however, exercised a very beneficial effect on the minds and countenances of the little society: they no longer held themselves aloof in detached groups, but formed a social circle round the fire to consult on the best means of ameliorating their condition. Many were the suggestions offered. The collegian thought that a game at billiards, between himself and some other gentleman of the party, would prove an interesting and exciting spectacle to the ladies; but he was summarily put down, and was heard no more. Mr. Singleton suggested that a few glees and catches would afford an agreeable occupation for the afternoon; but, as nobody appeared to know anything that any one else did, this proposal also fell to the ground.

The successful idea at length emanated from Kate Southern—why should they not get up a charade? The proposal was received with universal acclaim. Edgar Ormerod, in a fit of enthusiasm, volunteered to retire at once to his sanctum, and to deliver in some result, either good or bad, by dinner-time; for, with all the energy of amateurs, they resolved that the evening of the succeeding day should witness the realisation of their plans. His proposal was accepted, and the discussion of the details pleasantly occupied the rest of the afternoon.

Meantime, what of the sportsmen? As three or four animated beauties were descending to the drawing-room they encountered a somewhat rueful-looking cavalcade, consisting of the bespattered and weary Nimrods, who escaped at the earliest opportunity. A few hasty minutes were all that remained for their outward renovation; and when the gong summoned [the party] to the dining-room, they presented themselves, looking red and sleepy—subjects rather for pity than punishment. Yet still the retribution for their offence pursued and clung to them: the conversation was on plans of which they knew nothing, and on subjects which, not having the key-note, they could not understand. They noticed the friendship which a community of interests had excited among the stayers at home; and after an unsuccessful attempt to excite curiosity by allusions to their own day’s adventures, they relapsed into indignant silence. The keen eyes of the ladies failed not to observe the discomfort of the Pariahs: their hearts were touched; the outcasts were restored to favour, and admitted to a participation in their plans and projects. On assembling in the drawing-room after dinner, Edgar Ormerod redeemed his promise by producing a voluminous MS., which he was called upon to read forthwith. The approval was unqualified until the distribution of the parts, when each person had some improvement to suggest in his own: one wanted a character with a Greek costume another a soliloquy which had been given to some one else; and, a third, a comic song. The unfortunate author, though somewhat embarrassed, succeeded at length in pacifying, if not satisfying, all; and they agreed that the result of their labours would be so successful as to merit a larger audience than the home circle could supply; so notes were written on the instant to all acquaintances residing within a moderate distance, to be sent express on the following morning.

It is strange what contrary effects may result from the same circumstances occurring at different times. The next day was, if possible, more gloomy

and dispiriting than its predecessor, and yet no one complained. The amateurs, on the contrary, rather congratulated themselves that they should be interrupted by no morning visitors, and that their hostess’s impromptu invitations would be too welcome, in the dull state of neighbouring affairs, to afford a probability of any refusals. One or two of the sportsmen, certainly, doubted whether any man in his senses would have his horses out on such a day; but the acceptances which rapidly succeeded each other, proved that the wishes of the ladies had, in most instances, overruled not only the objections of masters, but even of coachmen. It is scarcely necessary to follow the party through the multifarious occupations of the morning, which seemed to them little more than a third the length of mornings in general. Lunch and dinner-time presented themselves in due course; evening drew on; the visitors arrived; and, greetings and coffee fairly over, the time for the commencement of the entertainment arrived also. The younger part of the home circle quietly disappeared from the room, but we must confess that for a considerable time no result followed; poor Mrs. Ormerod was rendered desperate by the impossibility of amusing twenty expectant people, and sent appealing messages to beg they would commence immediately. At an appointed signal Julia Wyndham placed herself at the piano, and executed a rather fierce arrangement of “*Lombrosa notte vien*,” as a kind of preparation for what was to follow; and at length the folding-doors, which had so jealous guarded the sacred precincts, were thrown open. As our limits will not admit of the introduction of even portions of that striking dialogue in which Edgar Ormerod revealed his ideas, we must content ourselves with a brief sketch of this plot, the originality of which will be at once apparent to every one. The first scene, then, represented night in the stronghold of a robber chief. This desperate character—entrusted to Langford Ormerod, rather on account of his possessing the largest whiskers of the party, than by virtue of any historic genius he had ever been known to display—was attired, in default of armour, in what was supposed to be the evening dress of the period; and was discovered, on the opening of the doors, engaged in bringing to reason a disconsolate and indignant “*damozel*,” named Bertha, otherwise Kate Southern, whom it appeared he had abstracted, with matrimonial intentions, from her father’s castle, under cover of night. He pointed out the arrangements he had made for her happiness, in the shape of a casket of jewels, and the sympathising attendant, who, in the person of Blanche Wyndham, waits to do her behests. Failing in his attempts by ordinary means to quiet the grief of his captive, and with some vague impression, probably, of the efficacy of music “to soothe the savage breast,” he summoned to his aid the minstrel attached to his establishment: Mr. Singleton, in Mrs. Ormerod’s puce velvet cloak, with roses on his shoes, accordingly entered, and sang partly to the lady, partly to the audience, his last new song. The strain selected, “*Beviam che tutto spiri l’ebbrezza*,” not having the soothing effect intended, the Knight proceeded to storm, and the lady judiciously put an end to the interview by fainting away, which she did with due regard to her drapery. In scene the second, the doors re-opened to a dungeon in the same castle, with a conspicuous straw bed in the corner, where the fair Bertha, in graceful despair, again excited the commiseration of the audience. In a short autobiographical soliloquy, she explained her resolution to die rather than wed her hated captor, or indeed any one but a certain noble esquire of her father’s household, named Osmond, who had been her companion from childhood. At this moment a figure in a monk’s dress silently entered, and revealed himself, to the equal astonishment of the lady and audience, as the aforesaid Osmond, who had gained admission in the disguise of a wandering friar. Although so recent an acquaintance, it appeared that the tyrant had given Osmond his whole confidence, and, more imprudent still, the key of Bertha’s dungeon, with directions to prepare her for the altar, at which he himself was to officiate in an hour’s time. The lover, however, only prepared for flight, by throwing over her dress his own monkish robe, the hood of which was to conceal her features in any dangerous emergency. After some little time devoted to love-making, which we could not but think rather unwise in their precarious circumstances, they made their exit; and the result proved that they escaped whilst the deluded Knight and his retainers were carousing. Before the opening of the last scene a long interval ensued, which was, however, fully explained by the extensive nature of the preparations. A Royal court was represented, as well as the limited conveniences would allow; the bride and bridegroom—for who could have the heart to separate them?—were crowned, robed, and throned as King and Queen, and presented a very magnificent appearance, having monopolised rather an unfair share of the public decorations; around them were artistically grouped all the members of the *corps dramatique*, arrayed in as much splendour as could be achieved upon their leavings. In a few moments Osmond presented himself, looking extremely happy, bringing with him the robber Knight in chains, looking extremely vindictive; having, with a band of devoted followers, stormed his castle and made him prisoner. The Monarch, who was evidently acquainted with the whole circumstances of the case, having sternly reproved the culprit for his villany, dismissed him to condign punishment. He then conferred the honour of knighthood upon Osmond as a reward for his prowess; and the father of Bertha, in private life the friend of the family, completed the general satisfaction by bestowing his daughter upon her preserver. Every one then walked about for some little time to exhibit their finery, and the termination of the Charade was announced. Immense applause succeeded; the word, which was *Knighthood*, was easily divined, and the performers on their return to their ordinary sphere of action, were almost overpowered with compliments and thanks. Those individuals who considered their *moyenage* costumes becoming, did not take the trouble of changing them; so kings, queens, forlorn maidens, and robber knights mingled with nineteenth-century ladies and gentlemen in the polkas and waltzes which concluded this most successful evening.



(Continued on page 53)

47

DECEMBER

Day of Month	Day of Week	ANNIVERSARIES, OCCURRENCES, FESTIVALS, &c.	SUN.				MOON.				DURATION OF MOONLIGHT.												HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE				Day of the Year.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
			SOUTHS.				SOUTHS.				Before Sunset.						After Sunset.						Morning		Afternoon																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
			Rises.	Before 12 o'clock.	Height above horizon.	Sets.	Rises.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Sets.	O'Clock.						O'Clock.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
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1	Th	Mercury in conjunction with the Moon at 9h 29 A.M.	7 46	10 42	16 3	3 52	8 40	0 33	13 3	4 22																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										</





THE CHRISTMAS TREE.

HERISH how fondly soever we may the relics of those essentially national associations which heralded in the Christmas season in years gone by, we are not the less disposed, when mourning the gradual disappearance of these our own time-honoured observances, to welcome the introduction of any foreign custom which may promise, in some degree, to compensate for their loss by adding lustre and interest to our cherished festival. It is true that many amongst us may not cease to sigh for the merry days of old, and the boisterous revelry of which time has enhanced the charm and veiled the disadvantages. They may regret that the boar's head should have ceased to be either a desirable or attainable addition to our good cheer; that the masques and pageantry in which princes once condescended to take part should have been long deemed unworthy the advancing intellect of the age; that the principles of order should be so powerful an element in our constitution as to forbid the reign of Mistletoe, even for that brief span which formerly witnessed its authorised dominion; and as they look back to the pastimes which it will never be their lot

to enjoy, may feel, be their prepossessions Royalist or Roundhead, that the Puritans did us ill-service in waging a war of extermination against the merry-makings of old Christmas. Others, again, there may be, who, without any antiquarian respect for the habits and manners of the real olden times, or any desire to awaken them from their long rest, may yet lament the departure of those familiar relics which were endeared by their own youthful associations; they may long once more by the light of the yule-log, to be half-amused, half-terrified by mummers; may grumble that their rest is less and less frequently disturbed by the harmony of the waits; and grieve that we are becoming too

refined to admit the privileges of the sacred mistletoe. But let them not be unjust to the present, and the enjoyments it provides. If the lordly boar's head no longer smokes in the centre of our modern dinner-table, have we no lordly baron or knightly sirloin to supply its place? If no gay pageant assembles eager crowds to witness its magnificence, has not each homestead its own individual gala, its festival of affection? And last, but not least, what matter though the mistletoe be banished, if we have the Christmas Tree, whose fruits, far less evanescent, will, undoubtedly purchase many a kiss, not stolen, but given as a free-will offering.

For this last picturesque innovation, now so completely a feature of our English Christmas, we are indebted to Germany, where it has held the same high position in general favour for years, we might almost say for ages; indeed, if we may credit the testimony of a well-known foreign print, representing Christmas in the household of Martin Luther, the illuminated tree afforded amusement to the children of our great reformer himself. The first instance generally known of the importation of the custom to our own country was during the embassy of Prince Talleyrand, who neglected no means of rendering himself popular and prominent amongst us; the reputation of the splendid tree which commemorated Christmas in his household spread far and wide at the time, and is no doubt still remembered by many. It was not, however, until the Royal marriage had established a kind of brotherly relationship between ourselves and our German neighbours—and by rapidly increasing the intercourse between the two nations, had rendered their habits and manners familiar to us—that this characteristic of a German Christmas was decidedly engrafted on our own. Since then it has gradually taken root in England; Royal example having given it fashion, and its own merits ensured it favour. There are now probably not very many families of which the elder branches are moderately enterprising, that do not establish a Christmas Tree; which, though ostensibly for the gratification of the younger scions, proves a source of interest and pleasure to all. There are, of

course, various degrees both in the beauty of these trees and in the amount of enjoyment derived from them (two points wholly independent of each other); and though each one must have a certain individuality of its own, yet they may be generally divided into two classes. First, perhaps, in splendour, are those summoned up without even the exertion of a thought through the potent intervention of Messrs. Fortnum and Mason. We know there are persons in the world who eschew trouble even when it takes the guise of pleasure. Happily for them many pleasures are to be purchased "ready-made," and our now popular Christmas diversion is of the number. There was a time when the annual display of Twelfth-cakes was esteemed well worthy a visit of inspection, but their attractions sink into complete insignificance before the curiosities and novelties in the form of, Christmas Trees with their adornments, a glimpse of which at the right season fills up an idle half hour very pleasantly.

For the advantage of those whose sphere of personal observation may be limited, but who may have their own reasons for feeling interested in the subject, we shall notice a few of the improvements which have been recently introduced: the benefit of them is chiefly confined to our first class of merry-makers—those who enjoy the result, but have nothing to do with the means. First, then, it must be understood that the Christmas Tree is by no means invariably one that Nature would acknowledge for her own production; indeed, the greater number of those that are supplied, ready dressed, are imitations—very good ones, be it understood—formed of painted tin. Hitherto, the comely and symmetrical fir-tree has served as a model; but, in the coming season, a novelty is to be introduced, consisting of imitative palm-trees, varying from two to six feet in height, in which the hand of Nature has not been disgraced by that of the artificer. There is the notched and gracefully tortuous stem, overhanging with the long green pendent leaves, which fall so judiciously over each other as to provide for the proper distribution of the lamps, or ornamented tapers which are attached to the points; a row of hooks, placed on the under side of every leaf, enables the ornaments to be disposed in close proximity, without injury to the general outline. Another design, equally new and pretty, represents a vine trained on a trellis, bearing large bunches of grapes, composed of coloured glass, but not on this account less tantalizing to the eye. Of half the elegancies and grotesqueries which are invented for the dressing of this elaborate groundwork, it would be impossible to make mention, for their name is legion. All are, however, receptacles for bon-bons, but so curious and ornamental in themselves that their original destination might be easily overlooked. We can have boxes in the semblance of dogs' heads, and may even choose between the aristocratic greyhound, surly mastiff, and faithful Newfoundland; or, for those who may prefer fac-similes of their own genus, there are half-length figures of sailors in their glazed hats, Saracens in turbans, crusty old men, good-tempered young ones—in fact, characters of every kind, to whom the hand of the Nuremberg workman has imparted a degree of expression that is really marvellous: but all these form receptacles for a store of good things, which are exposed to view by the process of decapitation. The tree is not, however, to be overloaded with these oddities; amongst them are dispersed pretty miniature representations of familiar objects, as book-cases, guitars, balloons, &c.; also, gelatine flowers of great beauty, with gold leaves, made in Paris for this very purpose; and any odd corners are filled up with artificial fruit and similar trifles. To each of these articles is attached a number, and their possession is determined by lot. The principal and best manufactory, both for the trees themselves and for their adornments, is acknowledged to be Nuremberg, which has long enjoyed an established reputation for the ingenuity of its toys, many of which are made by the nimble fingers of children. The prices charged by the importers for the decorated trees range from one to thirty guineas, according to their size and the number and value of the articles which are placed upon them. All are in their degree tasteful and pretty, and can be said to lack nothing, except that particular interest which can only be purchased at the expense of a little trouble.

We must now glance at the second class of Christmas Trees; those of home growth; and ascertain if they have not some peculiar advantages of their own, to counterbalance their inferiority in elegance. In contradistinction to those individuals who do not make acquaintance with their tree until it has assumed its full dress, are a large proportion of aspirants for enjoyment, who would on no account relinquish the preparations to professional hands. They embark in the undertaking with the sensible resolution of extracting from it all the pleasure which it is capable of affording; and the amount, in a large family especially, is by no means contemptible. On our domestic tree comparatively little money is expended, for it is soon discovered that the trouble and ingenuity so willingly bestowed, go very far to supply its place. It may occasionally be made the medium of conveying handsome presents destined for many a year to recall the memory of the day to their possessors; but these can scarcely be considered as part of the legitimate expenses; and, as a principle, the productions of the tree are of an inexpensive character—often labours of love. For weeks before the long-looked-for day, the leisure occupations of those who may have taken upon themselves the responsibility of the affair, have reference to its success. Many an hour is stolen from sleep and the social circle, for the secret manufacture of these same presents, half the charm of which would be lost to the donor if the glance of admiration with which they are received be not equally one of gratified surprise. Many a walk is taken for the purpose of choosing the pretty bon-bons and ornaments which cannot be made at home, or dispensed with altogether. Even amongst the children there is an unwonted cessation of noisy activity, for they, too, have their own important affairs to arrange. They have to select from their own toys those that are to grow on the tree for the benefit of the little cousins who will be of the merry Christmas party; their generous impulses being no doubt rather quickened by the prospect of fresh acquisitions

for themselves. They have to determine the division and employment of the hoarded half-crown, and pay many a visit to the bazaar ere it is laid out to the best advantage. Lastly, there are the book-marks, intended to minister to the intellectual tastes of papa and mamma, to be completed and delivered in to the authorities on the eve of the great day. It will in truth be fortunate if its arrival do not surprise them ere the various plans are fully matured and realised. We should here observe that the time selected for the lighting up and grand exhibition of the Tree depends on individual taste; but as it most usually forms the crowning pleasure of Christmas Day itself, when the circle of assembled friends and relatives supplies a meet audience, we may conclude that the preliminary arrangements are made on the preceding evening. A select committee, consisting of those who are recognised authorities in matters of taste, closet themselves, with the various appliances of their business, in the back drawing-room, or wherever else may be the theatre of exhibition. How gaily they enter on their appointed task of decking the dark spreading branches of the vigorous young fir-tree, which, to afford full scope for their genius, should be some six feet in height. The first step is to attach the coloured tapers, by means of large pins, or any better expedient that can be devised. It may, perhaps, prove no easy matter to persuade them to maintain their appointed attitudes, and avoid all the risk of the illumination progressing into a conflagration; but if the candles do not look quite as much at home on our tree as on those of a more artificial character, they will at least give as good a light. Then the bon-bons, sweetmeats, flowers, and any other pretty things that may have been provided, are suspended from various parts of the tree, with those presents that are of a sufficiently light and ornamental description. The residue are gracefully strewed around, as though they had been showered down by the benevolent hand of some good fairy. During these proceedings, which have occupied considerably more time than their description, general curiosity has been exhibited outside the door to ascertain the progress of affairs; for, be it understood, there is "no admission for any one excepting on business." Idlers would only interfere with the industrious; and for the children, above all, the *coup d'oeil* is reserved until to-morrow; they would not have half the respect for the marvellous tree if they had beheld it unadorned, and discovered that it differed in no respect from those which they often carelessly passed in their country walks. The appeals of little eager voices for "just one look" are therefore entirely disregarded, and the plots laid by mischievous brothers to steal in on some specious pretext are disappointed by wary caution on the part of the besieged. It is ordained that all shall wait till to-morrow, and, fortunately, there is too much excitement going on in every household on Christmas Eve for the delay to be very irksome, or the interval to seem very long.

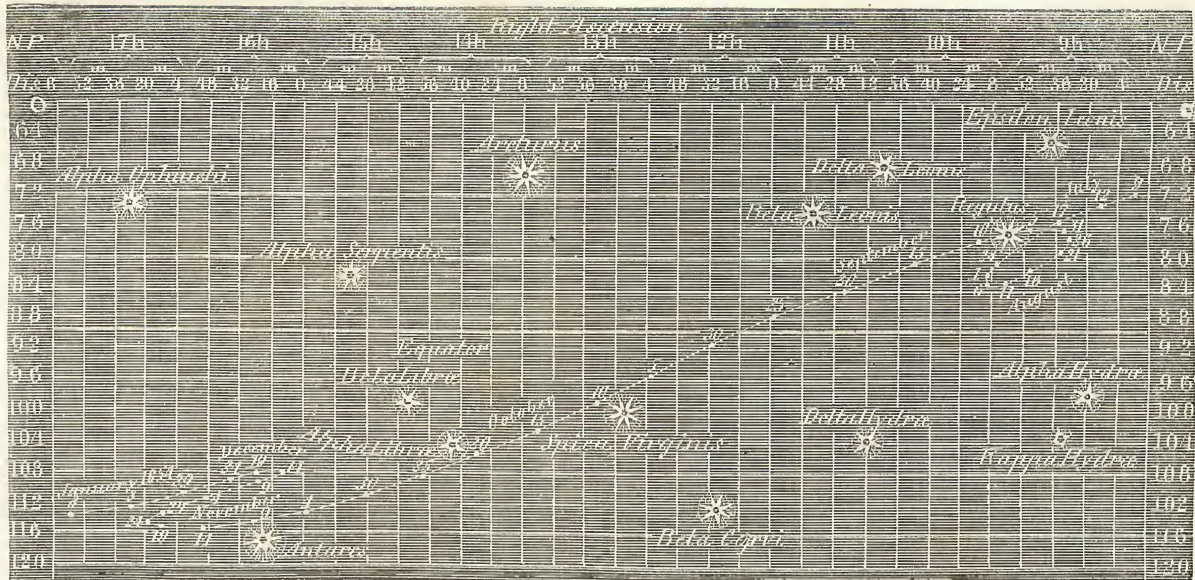
There are, we should hope, not very many who do not wake to the dawn of the Christmas Day morning with an indistinct consciousness that something pleasant is about to happen; and with the children this something speedily assumes the form of the Christmas Tree. Its prospective glories will present themselves to the best-regulated juvenile minds during church time, and not even the unwonted pleasure of dining with parents, aunts, uncles, and all the dignitaries of the family, is sufficient to prevent many an exclamation of joy when this preliminary is at last over and the moment of fruition arrived. The tapers lighted, and finishing touches given, the folding-doors are opened or curtain raised, and the Christmas Tree, in all its dazzling magnificence, is exposed to view. The admiration is so absorbing, that for many minutes it shines and glitters in undisturbed glory; but at length there is an evident desire to realise the existence of the treasures by actual possession, and to the most humorous of the party is entrusted the duty of distributing to every one their allotted portion, with appropriate remarks of his own.

Now are all those mysteries and hours of seclusion explained and accounted for to the general satisfaction. Every one would seem to have had his own especial secret; even the heads of the family have privately added at the last moment love tokens to their children, whose surprise they not a little enjoy. There may be (we say not that there is) a watch for him whose ambition it has so long been to possess one; a concertina or drawing-box for her whose tastes may render such a gift acceptable; and so munificent an assortment of dolls, with every appliance for their comfort, that the little ones forget to breathe one sigh of regret as they see their own generous intentions realised, and treasures, once the most cherished, pass into other hands. Nor are the juniors without their own moments of triumph; how pleased is the affectionate mother, when the beautiful, braided table-cover worked by the hands of her daughters is presented to her; and yet it scarcely meets with more consideration than the book-marks and the needle book. We must certainly relinquish all idea of enumerating a tithe of the gifts that are interchanged, for it really seems that each one has remembered everyone else, and has been by them as carefully remembered. Finally, the bon-bons are distributed as a *bonne-bouche*, but the tree must not be entirely dismantled on this occasion; some time should elapse before it ceases to be an object of interest; and surely another Christmas will be almost at hand ere its glories fail to prove an agreeable and ever-fruitful topic of conversation.

We have endeavoured to give some little idea of the distinctive characteristics of the two classes of Christmas Trees, as we see them in England; and now without offering any ungracious comparisons, we bid farewell to our readers of every age, desiring for them all possible enjoyment from their own Christmas diversions, be they foreign or be they of home growth; and, in the time-honoured words of our ancestors, wishing them each and all

"A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!"

DECEMBER.



Scale, 24 degrees to one inch.

THE PATH OF MERCURY FROM JULY 9, 1853, TO JANUARY 8, 1854.

THE SUN is situated south of the Equator, moving southward till the 21st day, when he attains his extreme south position, and is moving northward from the 22nd. He passes from the sign Sagittarius (the Archer) to that of Capricornus (the Goat), completing the tropical year in 365 days, 5 hours, and 59 minutes; on the 21st day at 9 hours 12 minutes P.M.; having been in Capricornus 29 days 12 hours 44 minutes. His distance from the Earth is 93 629,300 miles on the first day; decreasing day by day to 93,407,200 miles on the last day, when he will be at the least distance during the year. He rises at the beginning of the month at 2° S. of S.E. by E.; and about the 21st reaches his extreme south point of rising, being about 4° south of S.E. by E. The times of his rising, setting, and setting, in ordinary clock time, together with his angular measure above the horizon at his greatest altitude, are to be found for each day in the calendar pages.

On the 2nd the Moon is in the constellation Sagittarius; on the 4th in Capricornus; on the 5th in Aquarius; on the 7th in Pisces; and on the 8th in Cetus; on the 10th she is in Pisces again and Cetus; skirting the boundaries of Cetus and Aries, she enters Taurus on the 12th; on the 16th she is in Gemini; on the 18th in Cancer; on the 19th in Leo; on the 22nd in Virgo; on the 26th in Libra; on the 27th in Scorpio; on the 28th in Ophiuchus; on the 29th in Sagittarius; and on the 31st in Capricornus.

She is above the horizon when the Sun is below, during the morning hours, from the 10th to the 26th; and, during the night hours, from the 4th to the 20th.

She is at her extreme south declination on the 2nd; crosses the Equator going northward on the 9th; reaches her extreme north declination on the 16th; crosses the Equator going southward, on the 24th; and reaches her extreme south declination on the morning of the 30th.

She is near Mercury on the 1st; Jupiter on the 2nd; Venus on the 4th; Uranus on the 11th; Saturn on the 13th; Mars on the 22nd; Mercury on the 28th; and Jupiter on the 30th.

MERCURY is in the constellation Ophiuchus throughout the month. He rises before the Sun from the 5th, by 25 minutes on the 6th; increasing rapidly to 2 hours on the 19th; and decreasing to 1h. 39m. by the last day. His times of rising are 6h. 42m. on the 10th; 6h. 13m. on the 15th; 6h. 5m. on the 20th; 6h. 16m. on the 26th; and at 6h. 30m. on the last day. He rises near the S.E.

by E. at the beginning and end, and about midway between that point and the E.S.E. at about the middle of the month. From the 13th to the 26th he is very favourably situated for observation during the morning. He is moving westward till the 13th; is stationary among them on the 14th; and is moving eastward from the 15th; is near the Moon on the 1st, and again on the 28th; is in inferior conjunction with the Sun and in perihelion on the 5th; and at his greatest elongation, west, on the 24th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the above diagram.

VENUS is in the constellation Sagittarius till the 4th; in Capricornus till the 29th; and in Aquarius to the end of the month. She is an evening star, and sets on the 1st at 7h. 4m.; on the 10th at 7h. 25m.; on the 20th at 7h. 50m.; and at 8h. 10m. on the last day. This planet sets after the Sun 3h. 12m. on the 1st, and 4h. 12m. on the last day. She is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 4th, and at her greatest western elongation on the 24th. For her path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in November.

MARS is in the constellation Leo throughout the month. He is visible from 11h. 0m. P.M., at the beginning, and after 10h. 0m. P.M. at the end of the month, rising on the 1st at 10h. 54m. P.M.; on the 15th at 10h. 28m. P.M.; and on the last day at 9h. 46m. P.M., at a point in the horizon a little north of E. by N. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 22nd. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in October.

JUPITER is in the constellation Sagittarius throughout the month. He sets on the 1st at 5h. 12m. P.M., on the 15th at 4h. 31m. P.M., and with the Sun on the 28th, near the S.W. by W. point of the horizon: he is badly situated for observation. He is moving eastward among the stars; is in conjunction with the Sun on the 27th; and near the Moon on the 2nd and 30th. He souths at an altitude of 15° 10' at the beginning, and of 15° 18' at the end of the month. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in September.

SATURN is in the constellation Taurus throughout the month. He sets on the (Continued on page 53.)

Days of the Month.	TIMES OF THE PLANETS SOUTHWING, OR PASSING THE MERIDIAN.						JUPITER'S SATELLITES.		OCCULTATIONS OF STARS BY THE MOON.											
	Mercury.	Venus.	Mars.	Jupiter.	Saturn.	Uranus.	Satellites invisible this month.		Names of the Stars.	Magni- tude.	Times of disappear- ance of the Star.	At which limb of the Moon.	Between what Latitudes visible.							
	Afternoon	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon	Afternoon	Afternoon														
1	H. M. 0 24	H. M. 3 12	H. M. 5 56	H. M. 1 18	H. M. 11 0	H. M. 9 46	Satellites invisible this month.		Tau 1 Aquarii....	6	{	D. H. M. 6 7 49 P.M.	Dark	4° S. to 75° N.						
6	Morning 3 15	5 44	1 4	10 39	9 26	8 46									6 8 57 P.M.					
11	10 57	3 18	5 31	0 49	10 17	9 6			Tau 2 Aquarii	5	{	6 9 18 P.M.	Dark	20° S. to 60° N.						
16	10 34	3 19	5 18	0 34	9 56	8 46									6 10 4 P.M.					
21	10 26	3 20	5 4	0 20	9 35	8 25			Kappa Geminorum	4	{	17 8 41 P.M.	Bright	4° N. to 70° N.						
26	10 27	3 19	4 49	0 5	9 15	8 5									17 9 41 P.M.					
31	10 33	3 17	4 34	Morning	8 54	7 45														
TIMES OF CHANGES OF THE MOON.																				
And when she is at her greatest distance (Apogee) or at her least distance (Perigee) from the Earth in each Lunation.																				
Days of the Month.	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.									
	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.								
1	17h. 5m.	112° 37'	19h.53m.	113° 35'	10h.37m.	78° 48'	8h. 0m.	113° 22'	3h.43m.	72° 36'	2h.29m.	75° 45'								
FIRST QUARTER	7d.	0h.	10m.	P.M.	6	16 33	109 50	20 17	112 20	10 45	79 25	8 5	113 22	3 41	72 40	2 28	75 48			
FULL MOON	15	1	34	P.M.	11	16 15	108 25	20 39	10 51	10 52	79 59	18 9	113 21	3 40	72 44	2 28	75 51			
LAST QUARTER	23	1	23	P.M.	16	16 16	108 29	21 0	09 12	10 58	80 29	18 14	113 21	3 38	72 48	2 27	75 53			
NEW MOON	30	6	6	A.M.	21	16 29	109 31	21 20	107 23	11 4	80 55	18 19	113 19	3 37	72 52	2 27	75 55			
PERIGEE	..	1	5	0	A.M.	26	16 51	110 53	21 39	105 27	11 9	81 16	18 24	113 17	3 36	72 54	2 26	75 57		
APOGEE	..	15	6	0	A.M.	31	17 17	112 11	21 56	103 26	11 13	81 32	18 30	113 13	3 35	72 57	2 26	75 59		
PERIGEE	..	29	5	0	P.M.															
RIGHT ASCENSIONS AND NORTH POLAR DISTANCES OF THE PLANETS WHEN PASSING THE MERIDIAN.																				
Days of the Month.	MERCURY.		VENUS.		MARS.		JUPITER.		SATURN.		URANUS.									
	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.	Right Ascension	North Polar Dis- tance.								
1	17h. 5m.	112° 37'	19h.53m.	113° 35'	10h.37m.	78° 48'	8h. 0m.	113° 22'	3h.43m.	72° 36'	2h.29m.	75° 45'								
6	16 33	109 50	20 17	112 20	10 45	79 25	8 5	113 22	3 41	72 40	2 28	75 48								
11	16 15	108 25	20 39	10 51	10 52	79 59	18 9	113 21	3 40	72 44	2 28	75 51								
16	16 16	108 29	21 0	09 12	10 58	80 29	18 14	113 21	3 38	72 48	2 27	75 53								
21	16 29	109 31	21 20	107 23	11 4	80 55	18 19	113 19	3 37	72 52	2 27	75 55								
26	16 51	110 53	21 39	105 27	11 9	81 16	18 24	113 17	3 36	72 54	2 26	75 57								
31	17 17	112 11	21 56	103 26	11 13	81 32	18 30	113 13	3 35	72 57	2 26	75 59								

ASTRONOMICAL APPEARANCES.

(Continued from page 7.)

ing star, and sets on the 1st at 3h. 7m. A.M.; on the 15th at 2h. 12m. A.M.; and on the last day at 1h. 10m. A.M., near the W.N.W. point of the horizon. He is nearly stationary among the stars till the middle of the month, after which he is moving slowly eastward among them, is near the Moon on the 18th, and in quadrature with the Sun on the 31st; he souths at an altitude of about $51\frac{1}{2}^\circ$. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram on page 7.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He is an evening star, and sets on the 1st at 2h. 33m. A.M., and on the last day at 0h. 40m. A.M.; he souths at an altitude of $51\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ nearly. He is moving westward among the stars till the 11th, is stationary on the 12th, is moving eastward from the 13th, is near the Moon on the 17th, and in quadrature with the Sun on the 24th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—When Jupiter is between them and the Earth, eclipses and occultations take place, the times of occurrence of which are given on page 7; when they are passing between the Earth and Jupiter, transits of themselves and of their shadows take place, the times of which are as follows:—

Satellites.	Times of Transits.	Satellites.	Times of Transits of Shadows.
	D. H. M.		D. H. M.
1st	7 6 52 A.M. I	1st ...	7 6 10 A.M. I
	16 5 35 A.M. E		23 6 39 A.M. E
	23 5 20 A.M. I		30 6 19 A.M. I
	23 7 34 A.M. E		
	30 7 18 A.M. I		
2d	21 6 1 A.M. E	2d	3 7 7 A.M. I
	23 6 6 A.M. I		23 6 50 A.M. E
3d		3d	15 6 52 A.M. E
			22 5 5 A.M. I
	15 6 52 A.M. E		22 7 32 A.M. E

(Continued from page 11.)

For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in January.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He sets on the 1st at 0h. 37m. A.M., on the 15th at 1h. 40m. P.M., and on the last day at 10h. 50m. P.M., near the W.N.W. point of the horizon; he souths at an altitude of $51\frac{1}{2}^\circ$. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 14th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The times of their eclipses and occultations are given on page 11; those of the transits are as follows:—

Satellites.	Times of Transits.	Satellites.	Times of Transits of Shadows.
	D. H. M.		D. H. M.
1st	8 5 59 A.M. E	1st	8 4 54 A.M. E
	15 5 42 A.M. I		15 4 33 A.M. I
	15 6 47 A.M. E		15 6 47 A.M. E
	22 6 26 A.M. I		22 6 26 A.M. I
	24 4 22 A.M. E		24 3 8 A.M. E
2d	22 3 37 A.M. I	2d	4 6 45 A.M. I
	22 6 18 A.M. E		22 3 54 A.M. E
	29 6 17 A.M. I		29 3 50 A.M. I
3d		3d	29 6 30 A.M. E
	20 4 15 A.M. E		
	27 5 50 A.M. I		27 3 22 A.M. E

(Continued from page 15.)

ward among the stars, is near the Moon on the 3d, and again on the 30th; he souths at an altitude of $15^\circ 53'$ on the first, decreasing to $15^\circ 47'$ on the last day. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in September.

SATURN is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He is an evening star, and sets, on the 1st, at 1h. 24m. P.M.; on the 15th, at 10h. 35m. P.M.; and on the last day at 9h. 45m. P.M., near the W.N.W. point of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 14th. He souths at the middle of the month at about $52\frac{1}{2}^\circ$. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in January.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He is an evening star, and sets, on the 1st, at 10h. 47m. P.M.; and on the last day at 8h. 57m. P.M., near the W.N.W. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of $51\frac{1}{2}^\circ$. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 13th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The times of their eclipses and occultations are given on page 15; those of the transits are as follows:—

Satellites.	Times of Transits.	Satellites.	Times of Transits of Shadows.
	D. H. M.		D. H. M.
1st	3 4 2 A.M. I	1st	3 2 43 A.M. I
	3 6 17 A.M. E		3 5 1 A.M. E
	10 5 57 A.M. I		10 4 41 A.M. I
	12 2 39 A.M. E		19 3 16 A.M. E
	19 2 18 A.M. I		26 2 55 A.M. I
	19 4 32 A.M. E		26 5 9 A.M. E
2nd		2nd	8 6 25 A.M. I
	1 6 17 A.M. I		26 3 37 A.M. E
	19 3 31 A.M. E		
	26 3 24 A.M. I	3d	6 4 50 A.M. I

(Continued from page 19.)

1st at 9h. 39m. P.M.; on the 15th, at 8h. 54m. P.M.; and on the 30th, at 8h. 6m. P.M., near the W.N.W. point of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 10th. He souths at an altitude of $52\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ about the middle of the month. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in January.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He sets on the

1st at 8h. 54m. P.M., and with the Sun on the 28th, at 7h. 16m. P.M., near the W.N.W. point of the horizon, he souths at an altitude of $52\frac{1}{2}^\circ$. He is moving eastward among the stars, is near the Moon on the 9th, and in quadrature with the Sun on the 28th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The times of their eclipses and occultations are given on page 19; those of the transits are as follows:—

Satellites.	Times of Transits.	Satellites.	Times of Transits of Shadows.
	D. H. M.		D. H. M.
1st	4 2 42 A.M. E	1st	2 4 48 A.M. I
	11 2 18 A.M. I		4 1 30 A.M. E
	11 4 32 A.M. E		11 1 9 A.M. I
	18 4 6 A.M. I		11 3 23 A.M. E
	20 0 47 A.M. E		18 3 2 A.M. I
	27 0 20 A.M. I		19 11 44 P.M. E
2nd	27 2 35 A.M. E	2d	26 11 23 P.M. I
			27 1 37 A.M. E
3rd	13 0 20 A.M. E	3d	2 3 32 A.M. I
	20 0 6 A.M. I		20 0 43 A.M. E
	27 2 47 A.M. E		27 0 38 A.M. I
	27 2 30 A.M. I		27 3 20 A.M. E
3rd	4 1 32 A.M. I	3rd	11 0 37 A.M. I
	4 4 6 A.M. E		11 3 11 A.M. E
	11 5 15 A.M. I		18 4 34 A.M. I

(Continued from page 23.)

point of the horizon. He is moving eastward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 7th, Mercury on the 22d, and Mars on the 27th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The times of their eclipses and occultations are given on page 23; those of the transits are as follows:—

Satellites.	Times of Transits.	Satellites.	Times of Transits of Shadows.
	D. H. M.		D. H. M.
1st	4 2 6 A.M. I	1st ...	4 1 16 A.M. I
	4 4 21 A.M. E		4 3 31 A.M. E
	5 10 47 P.M. E		11 3 10 A.M. I
	11 3 52 A.M. I		12 11 53 P.M. E
	12 10 18 P.M. I		19 11 32 P.M. I
	13 0 32 A.M. E		20 1 46 A.M. E
	20 0 2 A.M. I		27 1 25 A.M. I
	20 2 17 A.M. E		27 3 40 A.M. E
	27 1 46 A.M. I		28 10 8 P.M. E
	28 10 27 P.M. E		
2d	14 11 5 P.M. E	2d	4 3 14 A.M. I
	21 10 42 P.M. I		21 9 46 P.M. I
	22 1 23 A.M. E		22 0 28 A.M. E
	29 0 59 A.M. I		29 0 22 A.M. I
3d	29 3 40 A.M. E	3d	29 3 5 A.M. E
	16 10 48 P.M. I		16 11 5 P.M. E
	17 1 22 A.M. E		24 0 23 A.M. I
	24 2 8 A.M. I		24 3 3 A.M. E

(Continued from page 27.)

20th; and on the 10th is in opposition to the Sun. He souths at an altitude of $15^\circ 57'$ on the 1st, increasing to that of $16^\circ 10'$ on the last day. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in September.

SATURN is in the constellation Taurus throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 3h. 16m. A.M., and on the last day at 1h. 31m. A.M., near the E.N.E. point of the horizon, but he is not well situated for observation. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 4th, and Mars on the 18th. He souths at about the middle of the month at an altitude of $55\frac{1}{2}^\circ$. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in January.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 2h. 33m. A.M., on the 15th, at 1h. 39m. A.M.; and on the last day, at 0h. 41m. A.M., near the E.N.E. point of the horizon. He souths at an altitude of $53\frac{1}{2}^\circ$. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 3rd. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The times of their eclipses and occultations are given on page 27; those of the transits are as follows:—

Satellites.	Times of Transits.	Satellites.	Times of Transits of Shadows.
	D. H. M.		D. H. M.
1st	3 3 30 A.M. I	1st	3 3 19 A.M. I
	11 11 49 P.M. I		4 9 47 P.M. I
	12 1 54 A.M. E		5 0 2 A.M. E
	13 8 29 P.M. E		11 11 41 P.M. I
	19 1 23 A.M. I		12 1 56 A.M. E
	20 10 4 P.M. E		13 8 25 P.M. E
2nd	27 9 34 P.M. I	2nd	19 1 35 A.M. I
	27 11 48 P.M. E		20 10 19 P.M. E
			27 9 58 P.M. I
			28 0 13 A.M. E
3rd	5 3 16 A.M. I	3rd	5 2 59 A.M. I
	15 9 20 P.M. E		15 9 36 P.M. E
	22 8 55 P.M. I		22 9 30 P.M. I
	29 11 11 P.M. I		23 0 13 A.M. E
	30 1 53 A.M. E		30 0 6 A.M. I
	28 9 12 P.M. E		28 11 1 P.M. E

(Continued from page 31.)

path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in January.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He is a morning star, and rises on the 1st, at 0h. 37m. A.M.; on the 15th, at 1h. 40m. P.M.; and

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on the last day, at 10h. 37m. P.M., near the E.N.E. point of the horizon, and south at an altitude of $53\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$. He is moving eastward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 1st and 28th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The times of their eclipses and occultations are given on page 31; those of the transits are as follow:—

Satellites.	Times of Transits.	Satellites.	Times of Transits of Shadows.
	D. H. M.		D. H. M.
1st	4 11 18 P.M. I	1st	4 11 53 P.M. I
	5 1 33 A.M. E		5 2 8 A.M. E
	12 1 4 A.M. I		6 8 36 P.M. E
	13 9 45 P.M. E		13 8 16 P.M. I
	20 9 18 P.M. I		13 10 31 P.M. E
	20 11 34 P.M. E		20 10 11 P.M. I
2d	27 11 6 P.M. I	2d	21 0 26 A.M. E
	7 1 29 A.M. I		28 0 5 A.M. I
	24 10 3 P.M. E		29 8 49 P.M. E
3d	31 9 44 P.M. I	3d	17 9 21 P.M. E
	5 9 54 P.M. I		24 9 14 P.M. E
	6 0 33 A.M. E		24 11 58 P.M. E
	13 1 17 A.M. I		31 11 50 P.M. I

(Continued from page 39.)

SATURN is in the constellation Taurus throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 9h. 32m. P.M.; on the 15th at 8h. 38m. P.M.; and on the 30th at 7h. 39m. P.M., midway between the E.N.E. and N.E. by E. points of the horizon; and is visible throughout the greater part of the night. He is moving eastward among the stars till the 13th, is stationary on the 14th, is moving westward from the 15th, and is near the Moon on the 22d. He souths at an altitude of nearly 57° at the beginning of the month, being the greatest in the year, and at $56\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ at the end. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in January.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 8h. 32m. P.M.; on the 15th at 7h. 36m. P.M.; and on the 30th at 6h. 36m. P.M., near the E.N.E., and souths at an altitude of $53\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$. He is moving westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 21st. For his path in the heavens and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The times of their eclipses and occultations are given on page 39; those of the transits are as follow:—

Satellites.	Times of Transits.	Satellites.	Times of Transits of Shadows.
	D. H. M.		D. H. M.
1st....	4 9 21 P.M. I	1st....	6 7 23 P.M. E
	13 8 0 P.M. E		13 7 3 P.M. I
	20 7 42 P.M. E		13 9 19 P.M. E
	29 6 24 P.M. E		20 8 53 P.M. I
2d....	1 8 55 P.M. I	2d....	29 7 39 P.M. E
	19 6 9 P.M. E		19 8 46 P.M. E
	26 6 4 P.M. I		26 8 36 P.M. I
3d....	22 5 56 P.M. E	3d....	15 7 4 P.M. E
	29 7 13 P.M. I		22 8 10 P.M. I

(Continued from page 43.)

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 6h. 32m. P.M.; on the 15th, at 5h. 37m. P.M.; and at sunset on the 30th, at 4h. 36m. P.M., near the E.N.E., and souths at an altitude of $53\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$. He is moving westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 18th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The times of their eclipses and occultations are given on page 43; those of the transits are as follows:—

Satellites.	Times of Transits.	Satellites.	Times of Transits of Shadows.
	D. H. M.		D. H. M.
1st....	6 6 7 P.M. I	1st....	6 7 18 P.M. I
	22 6 52 P.M. E		15 5 58 P.M. E
	29 6 36 P.M. I		22 5 37 P.M. I
2nd....	21 6 17 P.M. E	2nd....	14 5 50 P.M. E
	28 6 17 P.M. I		21 5 39 P.M. I

(Continued from page 47.)

SATURN is in the constellation Taurus throughout the month. He rises on the 1st at 5h. 29m. P.M., and with the Sun on the 22nd, and at 3h. 27m. P.M. on the last day, nearly midway between the E.N.E. and the N.E. by E. points of the horizon, and is visible throughout the night. He is moving westward among the stars; is near the Moon on the 16th; and in opposition to the Sun on the 20th; he souths at an altitude of $56^{\circ} 26'$ on the 1st; decreasing to $55^{\circ} 56'$ by the last day. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in January.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He sets on the 1st at 4h. 7m. A.M., and on the last day at 5h. 11m. A.M. near the W.N.W., and souths at an altitude of 53° . He is moving westward among the stars; is in opposition to the Sun on the 3rd; and near the Moon on the 14th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

JUPITER'S SATELLITES.—The times of their eclipses and occultations are given on page 47; those of the transits are as follow:—

Satellites.	Times of Transits.	Satellites.	Times of Transits of Shadows.
	D. H. M.		D. H. M.
1st ..	7 5 24 P.M. E	1st ..	7 6 13 P.M. E
	14 5 9 P.M. I		14 5 52 P.M. I
2d ..	22 4 2 P.M. I	2d ..	23 4 32 P.M. E
			30 4 11 P.M. I
3d ..	4 4 42 P.M. I	3d ..	15 5 27 P.M. E
			22 5 15 P.M. I

(Continued from page 51.)

1st at 6h. 41m. A.M.; on the 15th at 5h. 39m. A.M.; and on the last day at 4h. 35m. A.M., at a point about 4° N. of W.N.W., and is visible through the greater part of the night. He is moving westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 13th; he souths at an altitude of $55^{\circ} 56'$ on the 1st; decreasing to $55^{\circ} 34'$ on the last day. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in January.

URANUS is in the constellation Aries throughout the month. He sets on the 1st at 5h. 5m. A.M.; on the 15th at 4h. 12m. A.M.; and on the last day at 3h. 6m. A.M., near the W.N.W. point of the horizon; he souths at an altitude of $52\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$. He is moving westward among the stars, and is near the Moon on the 11th. For his path in the heavens, and relative position to neighbouring stars, see the diagram in July.

ON THE ECLIPSE OF THE SUN, JULY 28, 1851.

IN THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK for 1851, the successive appearances of the Sun, before and after the greatest phase, were shown for these latitudes, as far north as Edinburgh; also the approximate times of the beginning and ending of the eclipse at various foreign stations. With the view of completing the notice thus began, we have deemed it desirable to subjoin some of the results of the careful and well-organised observations instituted at places abroad where the eclipse was total. The observations from which we make a selection, it may be remarked, derive great weight from the number of accredited observers employed upon them, and the fact that of the several detailed accounts each is confirmatory of the other. The greater number of the observations taken have been collected and published in the *Astronomical Society's "Memoirs"* for 1851, vol. 12; and those among our readers for whom the following notice may be insufficient, will there find the bulk of published information respecting it.

The following is a list of the places selected from which to make observations of the Eclipse:—

Name of Place.	Latitude		Longitud.	Observer.
	North.	East.		
Island of Bue	61 9 42	0 17 24	H. M. S.	Prof. Smyth and Dr. Robinson
Christiania	59 54 5	0 42 53		Mr. Dunkin and Mr. Snow
Ringerik, near Christiania .. ..	.. ..	.. ..		Lieutenant Krag
Dröbak, 13 miles S. by W. from Christiania	59 40 0	0 42 30		Capt. Biddulph, R.A.
Fylgaa, 40 miles S.S.W. of Christiania	59 20 0	0 41 20		Mr. Jackson and Mr. King
June, near Sarpsborg	59 14 0	14 18 0		Mr. Gray
Fredrichsvaarn	59 0 0	0 40 0		Mr. R. Stephenson
Trollhätten Falls	58 17 30	0 49 8		Messrs. Lassell, Williams, and Stanistreet
Lilla Edet, on the Gota River	58 7 9	0 48 32		Messrs. Carrington, Mygind, Svangren, & Dr. J. Boustedt
Near Gottenburg	57 43 5	0 47 49		Messrs. Swann and Lane
Gottenburg	57 42 6	0 47 50		Lieutenant Petterson
Near Gottenburg	57 42 11	0 48 0		The Astronomer Royal
" .. ..	.. ..	.. ..		Mr. John Adie
" .. ..	.. ..	.. ..		Rev. Temple Cherallier
Ravelsberg	56 16 0	0 51 33		Mr. J. R. Hind, Mr. Dawes
Helsingborg	56 4 0	0 51 0		Capt. Blackwood, R.N., and Lieut. Goodenough, R.N.
Christianstadt	56 4 0	0 56 40		Mr. Humphreys and Mr. Miland
" .. ..	.. ..	.. ..		Col. Siverstoppe

Previously to the date of the expected eclipse a code of suggestions to astronomers for the "observation of the total eclipse of the Sun," was drawn up by a committee of the British Association.

Among various observations specially recommended to the notice of astronomers were those applying to the physical structure of the sun and moon, as those of the corona and of the rose-coloured prominences, and such as related to the formation of beads or threads.

The rose-coloured prominences, to which attention was to be particularly drawn, are never seen excepting in a total eclipse. They were prominently visible in the Eclipse of 1842, and in the present case were seen by all the observers, who have severally described their appearance and relative position; all concurring that they were of a conical form, and of greater height than breadth. As both Messrs. Lassell and Carrington have described them with great care, we have made selection of their accounts for insertion. The greater part of Mr. Lassell's account is subjoined.

At Trollhätten Fal's the eclipse was well observed by Mr. Lassell. The telescope employed was by Merz, of Munich, of 2.55 inches aperture, and 32.5 inches focal length; the eye-piece, an inverting one, of 35 power.

Two spots were noted, and their positions estimated. The first contact occurred at 2h. 12m. 32s.

The southern limb of the Moon had four or five well-defined summits—one more prominent and insulated than the others. As the Moon advanced there did not appear to be any obvious difference of brightness in different parts of the Sun. The cusps of the Sun were in no degree distorted, even when not more than 50° or 60° of the Sun's circumference apart.

As the totality approached, Mr. Lassell looked carefully for Bailey's *beads*, as well as for any drawing out or osculation of the limbs about to touch, but could perceive none. The total obscuration was observed as occurring at 3h. 13m. 7s., and the re-appearance at 3h. 16m. 26s. The end of the eclipse could not be observed, owing to the intervention of cloud.

Mr. Lassell's watch at the time of the eclipse was fast on Greenwich, 5m. 57s., and slow on the place 43m. 11s. This error was deduced from altitudes of the Sun on the 29th and 30th, in addition to others taken on the 27th; the result was checked by two other good watches, leaving a possible error of no more than 1s. or 2s.

The Moon to the naked eye appeared as if rudely cut out with a jagged outline, the corona itself perfectly concentric and radiating, *some of the rays* appearing longer than the rest. Mr. Lassell conceived that the corona gave a much lighter as the full Moon. There was some haze which obscured Mercury, but Venus was seen. The darkness appeared greater than that of midnight at Christiania.

As the heat from the Sun gradually became reduced, the telescope was restored to its full aperture, and a power of 43 applied. Mr. Lassell then looked

for the "red flames" which he had heard described as but faint phenomena. In the middle of the field was seen the body of the Moon, rendered visible by the light of the corona, attended by apparent projections behind her. The prominences were of a most brilliant lake-colour, quite defined and hard, and appeared to Mr. Lassell to be not quite quiescent, though the Moon by her movements might cause an idea of motion. They were evidently belonging to the Sun, for on the western side the Moon passed over them, leaving them behind, and revealing successive portions as she advanced. The Moon had covered one and nearly three-fourths of the other, while Mr. Lassell was engaged in registering the time and making observations with the naked eye. The principal flame appeared situated a few degrees south of the place where the cluster of spots was situated; and the flame in the eastern limb corresponded almost exactly with the place of the eastern spot. As, however, some prominences appeared on parts of the Sun's limb not traversed usually by spots, the connexion between the two did not appear to be made out. The principal prominence was roughly estimated at $2\frac{1}{2}$ in length.

The remarkable prominences seen by Mr. Lassell were also confirmed by Mr. Carrington. The telescope employed by this gentleman was made by Simms: aperture, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches; focal length, 4 feet; and the power used about 70. "A small pink prominence was seen at an angle of about 100° from the vertex towards the east; it was of the form of a haycock, and rapidly diminished; in 10 seconds it was gone. Directing the telescope all round the Moon, three other prominences were seen; one also of a haycock form, at about 43° from the upper limb towards the west; and two others at 120° and 130° in the same direction. The colour was pink and tinged with white." The colour of these last was so remarkable, that Mr. Carrington confined his attention to them entirely. They evidently increased in size as the Moon advanced; their change being fully accounted for by the successive laying bare of their bases as the Moon gradually uncovered them. The appearance of the larger he described as being like a mighty flame bursting through the roof of a house, and blown by a strong wind. Though the form was highly suggestive of motion, no change of outline was perceived. The other of the two prominences was less remarkable, and more simple in form. Mr. Carrington remarks in conclusion that he was astonished by the appearance of five or six *bows of light*, which seemed to connect the summits of the prominences. The colour of the bows was yellow, and they maintained their relative position till all vanished. In Mr. Airy's account of the eclipse, he remarks, "The red prominences are very remarkable;" and, in continuation, that their colour appeared to vary somewhat, and to have been generally brighter on the edge.

Of other phenomena, the beads of light were variously observed. It will be perceived that Mr. Lassell looked, but saw none. Mr. Dunkin, situated at Christiania, saw the narrow line of the Sun, about 15 s. before the beginning of total darkness, break up into numerous small particles or beads of light, of different sizes, some appearing like small points, and others elongated; they were perfectly steady, and disappeared gradually before the total obscuration took place. They were also seen by Mr. King at Fyldpaa; also by Mr. Gray. Mr. Robert Stephenson described the re-appearance of the Sun as remarkably instantaneous, and presenting not a fine line of light as it had done in disappearing, but a series of spots of silver light, which suggested the idea of globules of mercury rushing among each other along the edge of the Moon. Threads, or black bars, were observed by Professor Chevallier, but no beads; they were, however, seen and described by Mr. Hind.

The aspect of nature in general during the time of the eclipse has been variously described by different observers. There is also considerable variation in their estimates of the degree of darkness which prevailed during totality. Professor Smyth observes that, "though the impression of darkness on the senses was that of something darker than the ordinary night, yet it was not very intense; that small print could be read, and the marks of a pencil in sketching seen. The colours in the sky resembled those which may at times be seen in stormy weather on an autumnal evening, half an hour before sunset."

Captain Biddulph, who attended chiefly to the picturesque effect of the eclipse, particularly remarks that "a dull grey colour was cast over the landscape;" that he experienced a sensation of darkness coming over on the N.W.; that the light was extinguished like a candle, and the horizon became invisible; that the rapidity of the motion of the shadow produced a feeling that something material was sweeping over the earth, at a speed perfectly frightful; and that during the time that the Sun was covered (about $3\frac{1}{2}$ minutes) the light was of a deep blue purple. Captain Biddulph estimated the darkness to be more intense than that of the midnight preceding.

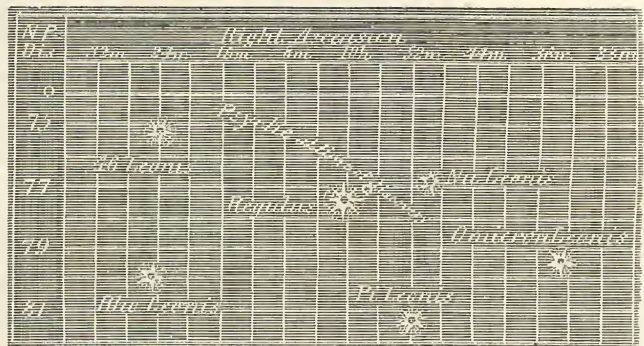
Mr. Stanistreet stated that the darkness was so great that he was unable to mark the places of the prominences upon a card on which a circle of four inches was drawn strongly with Indian ink. Mr. Carrington, on the other hand, could read his watch, which lay at his feet, with a glance. On the Sun's reappearance, Mr. Airy remarks that his eye was caught by a darkness in the S.E., the eclipse's shadow in the air travelling away in the direction of the shadow's path. The shadow remained in sight at least six seconds.

Among the inhabitants of the district situated within the influence of the total obscuration some uneasiness was observable. The Norse fishermen showed great terror, and at Gottenburg all sounds of labour ceased during the darkness. Among animals, dogs, horses, and cows were observed to be but little affected. Wild birds appeared surprised at the sudden darkness, and seemed quite at a loss; while the domestic fowls treated it as they would have done a natural close of one day and the beginning of another. Flowers showed the night phenomena.

It is here necessary to close our account of this fine and well-observed eclipse. Mr. Dawes has appended to the account of his observations a drawing illustrative of the remarkable red prominences, which well explains their general character and appearance. In an illustrative work like the present, it would be singularly appropriate for engraving were it not that colour is necessary to the proper understanding of the diagram—a fact, however, the less to be regretted, as the phenomena of this eclipse have been better and more extensively observed than on any former occasion on record.

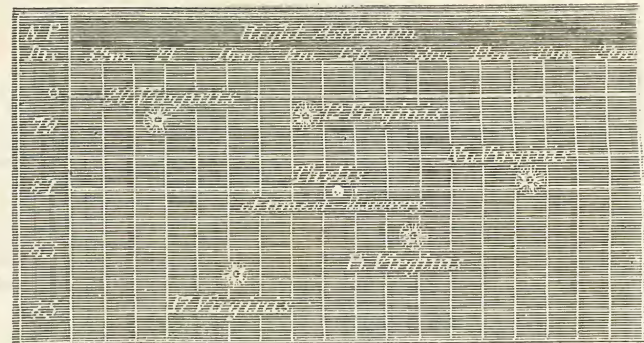
It is necessary to observe that, last year, when the sheets of the Almanack for 1852 were sent to press, the observations referred to in this memoir were not collected. This year is the earliest date at which an authentic account of this Eclipse could be supplied to the pages of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK.

PLACE IN THE HEAVENS OCCUPIED BY THE NEW PLANET PSYCHE ON ITS DISCOVERY.



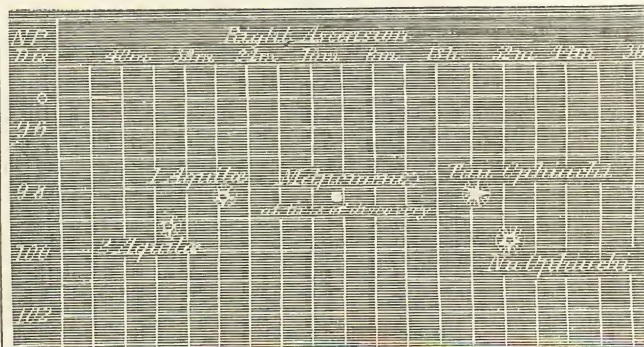
This Planet was discovered by Dr. A. de Gasparis, on March 17, 1852.

PLACE IN THE HEAVENS OCCUPIED BY THE NEW PLANET THETIS, ON ITS DISCOVERY.



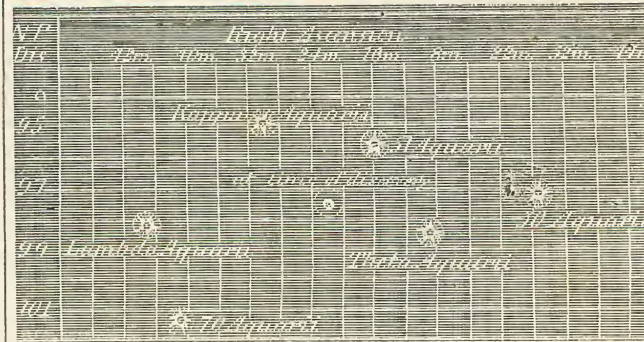
This planet was discovered by Mr. R. Luther, on April 17, 1852.

PLACE IN THE HEAVENS OCCUPIED BY THE NEW PLANET MELPOMENE, ON ITS DISCOVERY.



This Planet was discovered by J. R. Hind, Esq., on June 24, 1852.

PLACE IN THE HEAVENS OCCUPIED BY THE NEW PLANET FORTUNA ON ITS DISCOVERY.



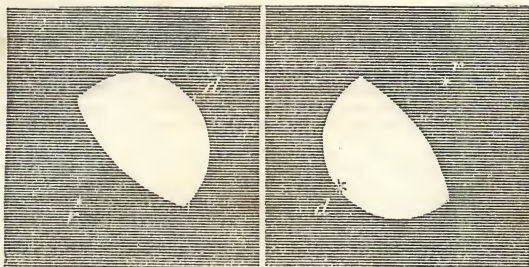
This planet was discovered by J. R. Hind, Esq., on August 22, 1852.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1853.

OCCULTATION OF ZETA 1 LIBRÆ BY THE MOON, ON MARCH 1, 1853, AS SEEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE WHICH

Inverts.

Does not invert.

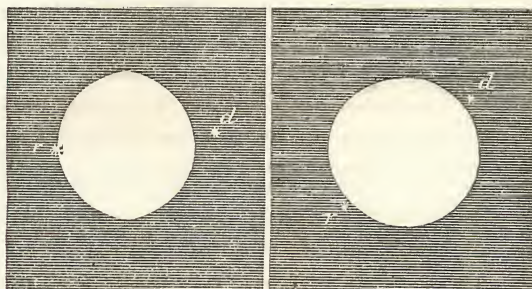


The star will disappear at the bright limb of the Moon at 2h. 3m. in the morning, and will re-appear at 3h. 10m. in the morning.

OCCULTATIONS OF KAPPA VIRGINIS AND BETA 1 SCORPII BY THE MOON, ON MAY 21 AND 22, 1853, AS SEEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE WHICH INVERTS.

KAPPA VIRGINIS.

BETA 1 SCORPII.



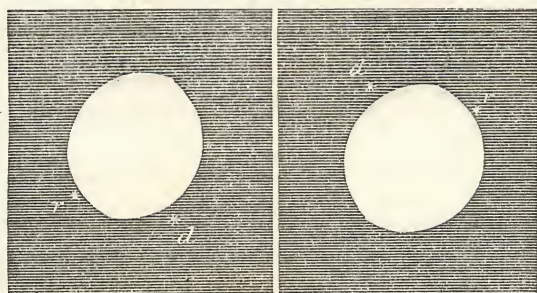
The star disappears at the dark limb of the Moon on May 21. at 0h. 11m. in the morning, and re-appears at 1h. 17m. in the morning.

The star disappears on May, 22, at 8h. 31m. in the evening, and re-appears at 9h. 30m. in the evening.

OCCULTATION OF LAMBDA SAGITTARII BY THE MOON, ON JULY 18, 1853, AS SEEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE WHICH

Inverts.

Does not invert.

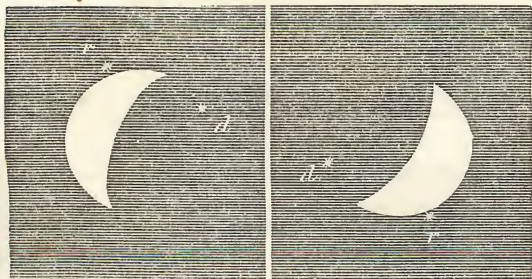


The star will disappear at the dark limb of the Moon at 11h. 34m. p.m., and will re-appear at the bright limb at 16 minutes after midnight.

OCCULTATION OF THETA OPHIUCHI BY THE MOON, ON OCTOBER, 7, 1853, AS SEEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE WHICH

Inverts.

Does not invert.

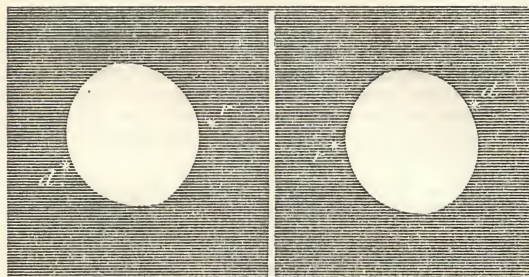


The star disappears at the dark limb of the Moon on October 7, at 5h. 49m. in the evening, and re-appears at 6h. 37m. in the evening.

OCCULTATION OF KAPPA VIRGINIS BY THE MOON ON MARCH 27, 1853, AS SEEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE WHICH

Does not invert.

Inverts.

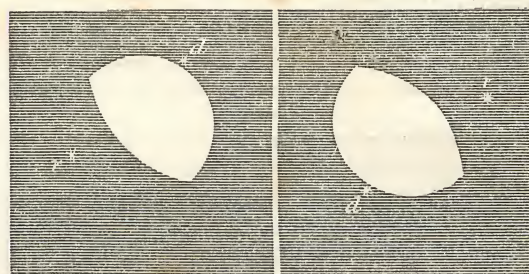


The star disappears at the bright limb of the Moon on March 27, at 2h. 42m. in the morning, and re-appears at 3h. 50m. in the morning at the dark limb.

OCCULTATION OF BETA 1 SCORPII BY THE MOON, ON MARCH, 29, 1853, AS SEEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE WHICH

Inverts.

Does not invert.

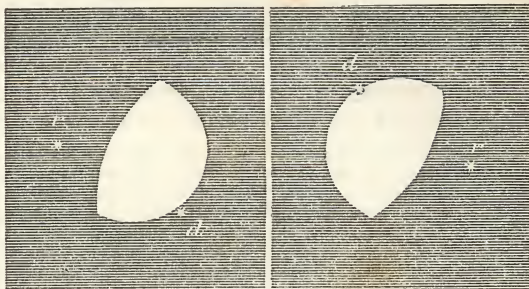


The star disappears at the bright limb of the Moon on March 29, at 0h. 34m. in the morning, and re-appears at 1h. 29m. in the morning.

OCCULTATION OF EPSILON GEMINORUM BY THE MOON, ON OCTOBER 23, 1853, AS SEEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE WHICH

Inverts.

Does not invert.

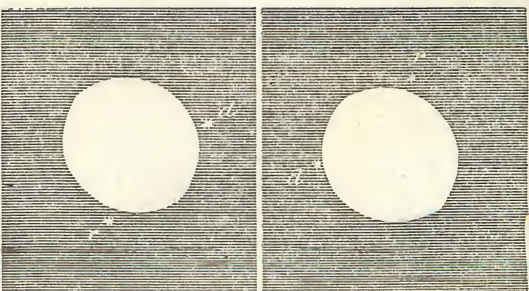


The star disappears at the bright limb of the Moon on October 23, at 5h. 31m. in the morning, and re-appears at the dark limb at 6h. 42m. in the morning.

OCCULTATION OF KAPPA GEMINORUM BY THE MOON, ON DECEMBER, 17, 1853. AS SEEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE WHICH

Inverts.

Does not invert.



The star will disappear at the bright limb of the Moon at 8h. 41m. p.m., and re-appear at the dark limb at 9h. 41m. p.m.

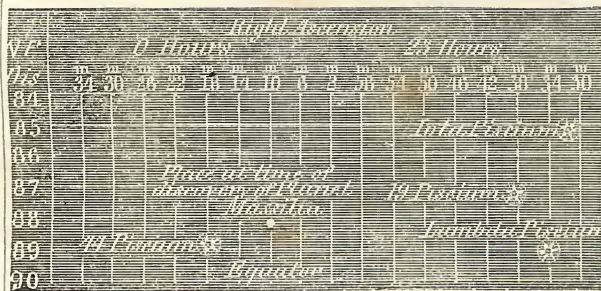
ON THE RECENTLY-DISCOVERED PLANETS.

In an article under the above title, in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK for the year 1849, we remarked "that within the three preceding years six planets had been discovered, one of these being the planet Neptune, whose orbit is exterior to all the other planets; and that these several discoveries of telescopic planets led us to suspect the existence of many such bodies yet undiscovered." Since that time no less than fifteen other small planets have been discovered—their places in the heavens, at the time of discovery, being shown by diagrams in the several volumes of this work—making the number now known amount to no less than twenty, whose orbits are all situated between those of Mars and Jupiter. The following is a list of these planets, arranged nearly in their order of distance from the Sun, with the dates of their discovery:—

<i>Flora</i> ..	discovered by Hind	1847, October 18.
<i>Melpomene</i> ..	discovered by Hind	1852, June 24.
<i>Victoria</i> ..	discovered by Hind	1850, September 13.
<i>Vesta</i> ..	discovered by Olbers	1807, March 29.
<i>Iris</i> ..	discovered by Hind	1847, August 13.
<i>Metis</i> ..	discovered by Graham	1848, April 26.
<i>Hebe</i> ..	discovered by Hencke	1847, July 1.
<i>Fortuna</i> ..	discovered by Hind	1852, August 22.
<i>Parthenope</i> ..	discovered by De Gasparis	1850, May 11.
<i>Thetis</i> ..	discovered by Luther	1852, April 17.
<i>Egeria</i> ..	discovered by De Gasparis	1850, November 2.
<i>Astrea</i> ..	discovered by Hencke	1845, December 8.
<i>Irene</i> ..	discovered by Hind	1851, May 19.
<i>Eunomia</i> ..	discovered by De Gasparis	1851, July 29.
<i>Juno</i> ..	discovered by Harding	1804, September 1.
<i>Ceres</i> ..	discovered by Piazzi	1801, January 1.
<i>Pallas</i> ..	discovered by Olbers	1802, March 28.
<i>Hygeia</i> ..	discovered by De Gasparis	1849, April 12.
<i>Psyche</i> ..	discovered by De Gasparis	1852, March 17.
<i>Massilia</i> ..	discovered by M. Chacornac	1852, September 20.

In all, twenty planets, situated between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter.

PLACE IN THE HEAVENS OCCUPIED BY THE NEW PLANET MASSILIA, ON ITS DISCOVERY AT MARSEILLES, BY M. CHACORNUAC, ON SEPTEMBER 20, 1852.



TIMES OF THE POLE STAR (POLARIS) BEING ON THE MERIDIAN, OR DUE NORTH, DURING THE YEAR 1853.

THE Pole Star is situated at the angular distance of $1\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ from the Pole, and describes a circle at this distance around this point. If we suppose a star there placed, it would be stationary. The Pole Star, not being so placed, is not always north; at times, when at its eastern or western extreme position, called Elongations, it is $1\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ from north, and is due north only when it is on the meridian, either when passing at its upper culmination or at its lower culmination. These times for the 1st and 15th of every month during the year 1853, are shown in the following table:—

	H. M. S.		H. M. S.
Jan. 1 at	6 22 33	A.M. below the Pole, and at	6 20 40 P.M. above the Pole.
Jan. 15 "	5 27 23	"	5 25 25 "
Feb. 1 "	4 20 19	"	4 18 20 "
Feb. 15 "	3 25 5 "	"	3 23 7 "
March 1 "	2 29 54	"	2 27 56 "
March 15 "	1 34 45	"	1 32 47 "
April 1 "	0 27 52	"	0 25 54 "
April 15 "	11 30 54	above the Pole, and at	11 28 54 below the Pole.
May 1 "	10 28 2	"	10 26 4 "
May 15 "	9 33 6	"	9 31 8 "
June 1 "	8 26 27	"	8 24 19 "
June 15 "	7 31 35	"	7 29 37 "
July 1 "	6 28 53	"	6 26 57 "
July 15 "	5 34 3	"	5 32 5 "
Aug. 1 "	4 27 25	"	4 25 27 "
Aug. 15 "	3 32 32	"	3 30 34 "
Sept. 1 "	2 25 51	"	2 23 54 "
Sept. 15 "	1 30 55	"	1 28 57 "
Oct. 1 "	0 23 4	"	0 26 6 "
Oct. 15 "	11 31 5	below the Pole, and at	11 29 7 above the Pole.
Nov. 1 at	10 24 12	"	10 22 14 "
Nov. 15 "	9 29 5	"	9 27 7 "
Dec. 1 "	8 26 2	"	8 24 4 "
Dec. 15 "	7 30 50	"	7 28 51 "
Dec. 31 "	6 27 43	"	6 25 45 "

From these the times can be calculated for any day in the year.

LIST OF THE PERSONS OF NOTE OR TITLE WHO HAVE DIED WITHIN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS.

*** Detailed biographical notices of all these persons are to be found in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

- 6th Nov., 1851.—FORDYCE, Lieut.-Col. Killed in the Kaffir war, in the action at Waterkloof; aged 42.
- 17th Nov.—In his 81st year, at his suburban Palace of Herrnhausen, ERNEST AUGUSTUS, King of HANOVER, Duke of Brunswick-Luneburg, Duke of Cumberland and Teviotdale and Earl of Argyll, K.G., &c., fifth son of George III.
- 18th Nov.—COPE, Sir John, 6th Bart. of Hanwell, co. of Oxford, and Bramshill Park, Hants.
- 18th Nov.—At Schwalbach, duchy of Nassau, Lady WARD, daughter of Hubert de Burgh, Esq., of West Drayton, in Middlesex, and wife of William Baron Ward, to whom she had been only a few months married.
- 22nd Nov.—MACKENZIE, Joshua Henry, a Scotch Judge, under the title of Lord Mackenzie; born in 1777; son of Henry Mackenzie, author of "The Man of Feeling."
- 24th Nov., aged 82.—MORRIS, Rear-Admiral Henry Gage, a distinguished British naval officer.
- 26th Nov.—SOULT, Nicolas Jean-de-Dieu, Duke of Dalmatia and Marshal-General of France, at St. Amans-la-Bastide; a great soldier of the Republic and the Empire; and one of the most eminent, if not himself the first, of those who fought under Napoleon. Born, the 29th March, 1769, at St. Amans-la-Bastide, in the department of Tarn and the province of Languedoc.
- 26th Nov., aged 58.—COLLINGWOOD, The Hon. Mrs. Sarah, elder daughter and co-heiress of Admiral Lord Collingwood, who was second in command at Trafalgar, and widow of George Lewis Newnham Collingwood, Esq., of Hawkhurst, Kent.
- 27th Nov., aged 81.—MONTAGU, Basil, Esq., an eminent philosophical and legal writer.
- 27th Nov.—SAPIO, Mr., formerly a tenor singer of note at the Lyceum and Drury-Lane Theatres.
- In Nov.—DE BLAQUIERE, William, third Baron, a general of distinction in the British Service; born the 27th January, 1778.
- 3d Dec.—CALL, Sir William Pratt, second Bart., of Whiteford, Cornwall. Born in 1781.
- 4th Dec.—SUFFOLK, the Right Hon. Thomas Howard, sixteenth Earl of, and ninth Earl of Berkshire.
- 6th Dec.—DUNBAR, Professor George, of the University of Edinburgh, an eminent Greek scholar, author of a lexicon and other works on the Grecian language. Born in 1774.
- 7th Dec.—GLADSTONE, Sir John, Bart., of Liverpool, and of Fasque and Balfour, Kincardine-shire, an eminent Liverpool merchant. Born 11th Dec. 1764.
- 7th Dec.—QUENTIN, Lieutenant-General Sir George Augustus, Aide-de-Camp to George IV., aged 92.
- 13th Dec.—ROGERS, Sir Frederick Leman, Bart., of Blachford, Devon, aged 69.
- 17th Dec.—DUNBAR, Sir Frederick William, second Baronet of Boath, in the county of Nairn; in his 33d year.
- 28th Dec., aged 21.—LOUGHBOROUGH, Lord James Alexander George, eldest son of the present Earl of Rosslyn.
- 29th Dec., aged 86.—BROUGH, William, Esq., C.E.
- 29th Dec.—ST. GEORGE, Sir Richard Bligh, second Baronet of Woodgift, in the county of Kilkenny; formerly a member of the Irish Parliament, and an opponent of the Union; born 5th June, 1765.
- In Dec.—DE BROGLIE, Prince Amadeus, uncle of the Duke de Broglie; born 23rd Oct., 1772.
- 1st Jan., 1852, aged 30.—WILMOT, Major, fifth son of the late Sir Eardley Wilmot, Bart.; shot while gallantly fighting against the Kaffirs.
- 1st Jan., aged 87.—ROBINSON, Gen. Sir Frederick Philipse, G.C.B.; a distinguished Peninsular officer.
- 4th Jan., aged 87.—HARLOWE, Mrs.; a celebrated comic actress.
- 9th Jan.—BAIRD, Sir David, second Baronet of Newbyth; born in 1795.
- 16th Jan., aged 77.—PAUL, Sir John Dean, Bart.
- 17th Jan.—GLANDER, Sir William, Bart.; born 13th September, 1769.
- 22d Jan.—RODWELL, George Herbert; a well-known musical composer and dramatic writer.
- 24th Jan.—OSTIN, Baron; an officer of distinction in Geo. III.'s German Legion.
- 24th Jan., aged 72.—WILBRAHAM, George, Esq., of De'Amere House, county of Chester.
- 24th Jan.—CLEMENT, Mr. William, of the *Observer* newspaper.
- 25th Jan.—DAVENPORT, Richard Alfred; a clever and laborious author, and contributor to various periodicals.
- 25th Jan.—BERNERS, the Ven. Henry Denny, of Woolverstone Park; Archdeacon of Suffolk; born 1769.
- 26th Jan., aged 70.—GRANT, General Sir Lewis, K.C.H.
- In Jan., aged 92.—GRAHAM, Robert, Esq., of Whitehill; first Lord-Provost of Glasgow after the passing of the Burgh Reform Act, and a leading Reformer in the West of Scotland.
- In Jan.—RICCI, Frederick; an Italian composer of repute.
- 2d Feb.—WELLES, Dymock, Esq., of Grebby Hall, county of Lincoln.
- 3d Feb., aged 41.—DOWNIE, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Kt.; a physician of repute.
- 5th Feb.—NAPIER, Sir William Milliken, Bart., of Napier. Born 18th June, 1788.
- 6th Feb.—THOMAS, Sir Edmund Stephen, Bart., aged 42.
- 10th Feb.—DINORREN, William Lewis, first Lord, aged 84.
- 10th Feb., aged 80.—ELWES, Robert Carey, Esq., of Great Billing, county of Northampton.
- 19th Feb.—CRADDOCK, Sheldon, Esq., of Hartford, Colonel of the North York Militia, and formerly M.P. for Camelford, aged 75.
- 20th Feb.—FUST, Sir Herbert Jenner, LL.D., Dean of the Arches and Judge of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, an eminent ecclesiastical lawyer. Born in 1778.
- 26th Feb., aged 81.—COCKBURN, Major-General Sir James, Bart., G.C.H., of Langton, county of Berwick.
- 26th Feb., aged 82.—SMITH, Sir John Wyldbore, Bart., of Sydling St. Nicholas, county of Dorset.
- 26th Feb.—MURRAY, The Most Rev. Archbishop; born 18th April, 1768.
- 28th Feb.—FAIRLIE, Sir John Cunningham, Bart. of Fairlie and Robertson; born 29th July, 1779.
- 28th Feb.—OXBERRY, William Henry, dramatist and comedian; born 21st April, 1808.
- In Feb., aged 82.—GRAHAM, Sir Robert, Bart., of Esk.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1853.

WARBURTON, Eliot G., Esq., author of "the Crescent and the Cross," &c.
Lost in the *Amazon*.
2nd March, aged 80.—HOMAN, Sir William Jackson, Bart.
2d March.—MARMONT, Augustus Frederick Louis Viesse de, Duke of Ragusa, and a Marshal of France, one of the most distinguished of the Generals of Napoleon. Born at Châtillon-sur-Seine, the 20th July, 1774.
3d March.—THOMOND, Elizabeth Rebecca, Dowager Marchioness, of widow of William, second Marquis, and only daughter and heiress of Thomas Trotter, Esq., of Duleck, in the county of Meath, Ireland, aged 77.
6th March, aged 87.—DOWDESWELL, George Esq., of Redmarley, county of Worcester.
6th March.—MONTAGUE, Vice-Admiral Sir William Augustus, Kt. K.C.H., C.B.
7th March.—LEES, the Rev. Sir Harcourt, 2nd Baronet; born in 1776.
10th March.—LYONS, Lady.
13th March.—WOOD, Charles Thorold, Esq., of South Thoresby, co. Lincoln; born Jan. 15, 1777.
22d March.—MARIA, Queen Dowager of Denmark; born 25th Oct., 1767.
21st March, aged 74.—WHEATLEY, Sir Henry, Bart., Privy Purse to William IV., and Queen Victoria.
22nd March, aged 74.—BROWN, Capt. Sir Samuel, inventor of chain cables and life-boats.
23d March, aged 69.—DRAKE, Thomas Tyrwhitt, Esq., of Shardalves, Bucks, Stafield Hall, co. Lincoln, and St. Douat's Castle, Glamorganshire.
24th March.—MILFORD, Baroness.
24th March.—HAWARDEN, Viscountess.
28th March, aged 81.—SHELLEY, Sir John, Bart., of Maresfield Park, Sussex.
In March.—HAMILTON, Lady Jane Dalrymple; born 30th March, 1778.
In March.—FITZWILLIAM, Mr. Edward; born Aug. 8th, 1788.
In March.—FORBES, Sir Charles, K.C.H., Dep. Inspector-General of Hospitals.
2d April.—HENLEY, Henry John, Esq., of Leigh House, co. of Somerset.
3d April.—The DUCHESS IDA, Consort of Duke Charles Bernard of Saxe-Weimar, and sister of the late Queen Dowager Adelaide; born 25th June, 1794.
3d April.—BURKE, Thomas Haviand, Esq., Barrister-at-Law; the grand-nephew and representative of the great Edmund Burke.
5th April.—SCHWARZENBURG, Prince Felix de, the distinguished Prime Minister of the Austrian Empire; born Oct. 2, 1800.
7th April.—DUNSANY, Edward, fifteenth Baron.
9th April, aged 86.—DYNEVOR, George Talbot, Baron.
12th April.—DONALDSON, Lieutenant; killed in the Burmese expedition.
13th April.—PANMURE, William Maule, fifth Baron; born 27th Oct., 1771.
14th April.—DORAN, Lieutenant; killed in the Burmese expedition, in the attack on Rangoon.
16th April.—WURTEMBERG, Prince Paul of; born 19th Jan., 1785.
17th April.—GERARD, Maurice Stephen, Count; a Marshal of France; born 4th April, 1773.
18th April.—MACKAY, Alexander; author of "The Western World;" an able philosophical writer.
19th April.—RUSSELL, Sir Henry, second Baronet of Swallowfield; born 27th May, 1783. He was Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court, Bengal.
23d April.—O'CONNOR, General Arthur de Condorcet; a celebrated leader of the Irish Rebellion of 1798; born in 1765.
24th April.—BADEN, Leopold, Grand Duke of; born 29th August, 1790.
26th April.—RAMSAY, Sir Alexander, second Baronet of Balmaine; born 14th February, 1785.
28th April.—ASHPITEL, W. H., Esq., architect.
In April, aged 53.—RENDLESHAM, Frederick, fourth Lord.
In April.—SETON, Lieut.-Col. Alexander, of Mounie, county of Aberdeen, lost in the *Birkenhead*.
In April.—DAVIES, Mr. Scrope; a well known friend of George IV.
2d May.—DALRYMPLE, Mr. John, F.R.S.; an eminent surgeon.
3d May.—WALSELEY, Sir Richard, fourth Baronet of Mount Walseley; born 15th June, 1760.
8th May.—ROWAN, Sir Charles, K.C.B.; Chief Commissioner of Metropolitan Police.
9th May.—WENLOCK, Paul Bellby Lawley Thompson, first Baron; born 1st July, 1784.
9th May, in his 88th year.—PENNYMAN, Sir William Henry, seventh Baronet of Ormesby, Yorkshire.
11th May, in his 55th year.—HUMFREY, Lebbeus Charles, Esq., Q.C.; an eminent lawyer, and the leader of the Midland Circuit.
13th May.—SKEPWITH, Sir Guy, sixth Baronet; born 7th September, 1771.
18th May, aged 75.—MAISTE, Gen., Colonel of 86th Regiment.
21st May.—CORNWALLIS, James, fifth Earl; born 20th September, 1778.
23d May.—FORBES, Sir C., second Baronet of New and Edinglassie; born 1832.
26th May.—TALBOT, the Hon. John Chetwynd, Q.C., Recorder of Windsor, and Attorney-General to the Prince of Wales; born 31st May, 1806.
In May.—GRANT, General Sir William Keir Grant; a distinguished British officer; born in 1771.
4th June.—MONTGOMERY, Major Hugh; a gallant officer of the Madras Horse Artillery; born 13th March, 1809.
9th June.—GINKLE, Lady Mary de Reede, second and last surviving daughter of Frederick Christian Rynhard, sixth Earl of Athlone.
7th June.—JOHNSTON, Lady Louisa Campbell, of Carnallock; born 4th October, 1771.
13th June.—MACDONALD, Commander Archibald, R.N.
14th June.—MONTGOMERY, William Eglinton, Esq., of Annich Lodge, Ayrshire; born 15th April, 1780.
17th June.—DOTTIN, Abel Rouse, Esq., late M.P. for Southampton.
25th June.—ABERGROMBY, George Ralph, third Lord; born 30th May, 1800.
27th June.—WORTH, Captain, R.N.; born 1801.
28th June, aged 75.—MENDSORFF, Pouilly Emanuel, Count Von, G.C.B., a Bohemian Noble, uncle by marriage to Queen Victoria and Prince Albert.
28th June, aged 72.—DENMAN, Theodosia Anne, wife of Lord Denman, the retired Lord Chief Justice.
29th June.—CLAY, Henry, the great American statesman; born 12th April, 1777; died at Washington.
30th June.—M'ADAM, Sir James Nicholl, Knt., son of J. London M'Adam, the reformer of roads.
1st July, aged 54.—MURRAY, The Rev. Edward.
3d July.—THORNTON, Right Hon. Sir Edward, G.C.B., an eminent diplomatist.
7th July.—JONES, Sergeant Chafwick, in his 53d year.
10th July.—WATSON, Sir Frederick Belby, K.C.B.; Master of the Horse to George IV. and William IV.; born in 1773.
11th July.—SMYTH, Sir George Henry, Bart., of Brerchurch Hall.
11th July.—MEADE, General, the Hon. Robert, third son of Earl Clanwilliam.
11th July.—LORRAINE, Sir John Lambton, tenth Bart., of Kirke Harle, Northumberland; born 1784.

20th July.—GISBORNE, Thomas, Esq., of Yoxall Lodge, county of Stafford.
21st July, aged 81.—SCROPE, William, Esq., of Castle Combe, Wiltshire, and Cokerington, county of Lincoln.
26th July.—WATSON, The Hon. Richard, M.P., of Rockingham Castle, county of Northampton; born 6th Jan. 1800.
In July, aged 78.—LANGSDORFF, Baron de.
In July, aged 86.—HISSINGER, Wilhelm, a Swedish geologist.
In July, aged 67.—WULFSBERG, Niels, a Norwegian Historian.
PAYNE, J. Howard, actor and dramatist; author of "Brutus," "Clari," "Charles II.," born 1790.
5th Aug.—GRANGER, Thomas Colpitts, Esq., Q.C., M.P.
10th Aug., aged 75.—KENSINGTON, William Lord.
11th Aug.—CROKER, Colonel William, C.B.
13th Aug.—PARKER, The Hon. Sir James, Vice-Chancellor; born 1803.
15th Aug.—MAYO, Dr. Herbert.
17th Aug.—HAMILTON, Alexander Douglas, 10th Duke of; born 3d Oct., 1767.
17th Aug.—LITTA, Count Pompeo; an eminent genealogical writer.
19th Aug., aged 55.—BRYMER, The Ven. Archdeacon, of Bath, and Canon of Wells Cathedral.
26th Aug.—PALMOUTH, George Henry Boscawen, second Earl of, and fifth Viscount Pالمouth; born 8th July, 1811.
28th Aug.—DUKE, The Rev. Edward, of Lake House, Wilts; a well-known and accomplished antiquary; born in 1779.
In Aug.—D'ORSAY, Count; born 1798.
In Aug.—YARBURGH, Nicholas Edmund, Esq., of Hislington Hall, county of York; born 1771.
In Aug.—BENT, Chief Justice of British Guiana.
In Aug., aged 90.—WAECHTER, M. de, the Senior Portrait Painter of Germany.
In Aug.—DOWNMAN, Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Charles, F., K.C.H., C.B.
23 Sept.—ADDISON, Miss Laura; an eminent tragic actress.
3rd Sept.—PORTER, G. Richardson, Secretary of the Board of Trade; eminent for his knowledge and writings on the subject of commerce and political economy.
4th Sept.—MACGILLIVRAY, Professor; a celebrated naturalist.
6th Sept., aged 75.—KEIGHTLEY, Lieutenant-Colonel.
7th Sept.—WATLINGTON, Mr. William; born 1765; a singular person, of ancient family, who made a large fortune by trade in the town of Reading.
13th Sept.—LOFTUS, Lieutenant-General William Frederick Bentinck.
14th Sept.—WELLINGTON, Arthur, the great Duke of; born in April, 1769.
14th Sept.—PUGIN, Augustus Northmore Welby; an architect of transcendent genius and originality; born in 1811.
16th Sept.—WEBB, Sir John; born 24th October, 1772.
16th Sept.—MEATH, the Hon. and Most Rev. Thomas Stuart Townsend, D.D., Lord Bishop of; born 1801.
18th Sept.—GRAHAM, Sir Sanford, Bart., F.S.A., of Kirkstall, county Cork; born 10th March, 1788.
20th Sept., aged 65.—FINDEN, William, the eminent engraver.
21st Sept.—CASTANOS, Francis Xavier, Captain-General, Duke of Baylen; a famous Spanish General; born 22d April, 1756. He was the companion in arms of Wellington, and derived his Ducal title from the scene of his celebrated victory over the French in Andalusia, 20th July, 1808.
22d Sept.—MACKWORTH, Sir Digby, Bart.; born 15th June, 1789.
In Sept., aged 81.—JERVOISE, the Rev. Sir Samuel Clarke, Bart., of Idsworth Park, Hants.
1st Oct., aged 79.—BENNETT, J., Esq., of Pythouse; late M.P. for South Wilts.
1st Oct., aged 83.—JUCKES-CLIFTON, Sir Juekes Granville, Bart., of Clifton, Notts.
5th Oct., aged 65.—SOMERS, John, second Earl.
6th Oct., aged 80.—DINOREN, William Lewis, second Lord.
7th Oct.—THROUBRIDGE, Sir Edw. Thomas, Bart., Rear-Admiral of the Red, C.B.
15th Oct.—NEWBURGH, Francis, Earl of.
In Oct.—ROLLO, William, ninth Lord; born 1809.

AN EXPLANATORY TABLE OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF PARLIAMENT PASSED IN THE

FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH YEARS OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN. 1852.

- Cap. 1. An Act to apply the sum of £8,000,000 out of the Consolidated Fund to the Service of 1852. Passed 30th March.
Cap. 2. An Act to authorise the Inclosure of certain Lands, in pursuance of the Seventh Annual, and also of a special report of the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales. By this statute the following inclosures are to be proceeded with: viz. the wastes of the manors of Magor and Redwick, Duram and Ragland, Magor and Green Moor, Salisbury; and Magor le Green Moor and Redwick, in Monmouthshire; Bromsgrove and Upton Warren, Worcestershire; Fulshaw, Cheshire; Ssal, Surrey; Hartwith High-pasture, Yorkshire; Nantglyn, Denbighshire; West-end Down, Upham, Hants; Clowesley, Bettws Hills, Asterton, Salop; Winterborne Gunner, Trowle Common, Wilts; Waulmeirws, Carmarthen; Eachwick Common, Northumberland; Billinge, Lancashire; Thorpe-by-Water, Rutlandshire; the Waste of the manor of Ruthin, in the parishes of Llanfairdyfryn Clwyd, Llanellidan, Derwen, Efenochyd, Clocaenog, and Gwyfylliog, Denbighshire; Urisghy Common, Herefordshire. Passed 20th April.
Cap. 3. An Act to provide for the Administration of Personal Estates of Intestates and others to which her Majesty may be entitled in right of her prerogative, or in right of the Duchy of Lancaster. By this Act, administration of the personal estates of intestates and others, to which the Queen is entitled in right of the Royal prerogative, may be granted to the Solicitor of the Treasury for the time being, and his successors, as nominees of her Majesty. Passed 20th April.
Cap. 4. An Act to indemnify such persons in the United Kingdom as have omitted to qualify themselves for Offices and Employments; and to extend the time limited for those purposes respectively. Passed 20th April.
Cap. 5. An Act Further to Explain and Amend the Acts for the Regulation of Municipal Corporations in England and Wales, and in Ireland. Having any share or interest in a contract or employment on behalf of the council of a corporate borough, incapacitates from being a councillor or alderman of such borough. A legal doubt having arisen whether this incapacity did not extend to parties owning or having shares in any newspaper which inserted advertisements relating to the affairs of the borough, the above act, the 15 and 16 Vic., c. 5, is passed to remove the doubt, to stop all suits for penalties that may have already been commenced about the matter, and to declare

- that no municipal officer shall be deemed disqualified by reason of his interest in a newspaper, in which advertisements of the nature in question are inserted. Passed 20th April.
- Cap. 6. An Act for Extending, until the 1st February, 1853, the Term of the Provisional Registration of Inventions, under "The Protection of Inventions Act, 1851." Passed 20th April.
- Cap. 7. An Act for Punishing Mutiny and Desertion, and for the better Payment of the Army, and their Quarters; and
- Cap. 8. An Act for the Regulation of her Majesty's Royal Marine Forces while on Shore. Passed 20th April. These are the usual acts passed every year.
- Cap. 9. An Act to Define the Borough of St. Albans. This statute enacts that "The borough of St. Albans, in the county of Hertford, shall, from and after the passing of this act (the 3rd May, 1852), cease to return any members or member to serve in Parliament." Passed 3d May.
- Cap. 10. An Act for Raising the sum of £17,742,800, by Exchequer Bills, for the Service of the Year 1852. Passed 3rd May.
- Cap. 11. An Act to Continue, until the 1st September, 1853, and if Parliament be then sitting until the end of the Parliamentary session, an Act (the 11 and 12 Vict., c. 107) to Prevent the Spreading of Contagious or Infectious Disorders among Sheep, Cattle, and other Animals. Passed 3d May.
- Cap. 12. An Act to enable her Majesty to carry into effect a Convention with France on the subject of Copyright; to extend and explain the International Copyright Acts; and to explain the Acts relating to Copyright in Engravings. 25th May. This important statute is passed to invest the Crown with further powers in effecting the Copyright Conventions with other countries. Passed 25th May.
- Cap. 13. An Act to Amend and Continue for one year from the passing of this Act (the 25th May, 1852) and until the end of the then next Parliamentary session, certain Acts relating to Linen, Hemp, and other Manufactures in Ireland. Passed 25th May.
- Cap. 14. An Act to Continue until the 30th September, 1853, and to the end of the then next Parliamentary session, the 14th and 15th Vict. c. 105, an Act for Charging the Maintenance of certain Poor Persons in Unions in England and Wales upon the Common Fund. Passed 25th May.
- Cap. 15. An Act to Continue, until the 1st October, 1853, and to the end of the then next Parliamentary session, an Act to amend the Laws relating to Loan Societies. Passed 25th May.
- Cap. 16. An Act to Amend the Acts relating to the Repayment of Advances made to certain Distressed Poor-law Unions and other districts in Ireland. Passed 25th May.
- Cap. 17. An Act for further Continuing, until the 1st August, 1853, and to the end of the then next Parliamentary session, certain temporary Provisions concerning Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction in England. Passed 25th May.
- Cap. 18. An Act to Continue, until the 1st October, 1853, and to the end of the then next Parliamentary session, the Exemption of Inhabitants from Liability to be Rated as such in respect of Stock in Trade, or other Property, to the Relief of the Poor. Passed 25th May.
- Cap. 19. An Act to Continue, until the 1st October, 1853, and to the end of the then next Parliamentary session, an Act for Authorizing the Application of Highway Rates to Turnpike Rates. Passed 25th May.
- Cap. 20. An Act to Continue the Duties on Profits arising from Property, Professions, Trades, and Offices. Passed 25th May. This Act, after restating that the Commons have freely and voluntarily resolved to continue these rates and duties, proceeds to enact that such rates and duties shall be further continued for one year from the 1st April, 1852, and until the assessments made have all been levied and paid.
- Cap. 21. An Act to Continue for one year from the 1st October, 1852, the Stamp Duties granted by the 5th and 6th Vict. c. 82, an Act to assimilate the Stamp Duties in Great Britain and Ireland, and to make Regulations for Collecting and Managing the same. Passed 17th June.
- Cap. 22. An Act to Continue, with regard to some, till the 31st July, 1853, or until the end of the then session of Parliament, and with regard to others, until the 1st of October, 1853—certain Acts for Regulating Turnpike Roads in Ireland.
- Cap. 23. An Act to Shorten the Time required for Assembling Parliament—after a dissolution thereof. Passed 17th June.
- Cap. 24. An Act for the Amendment of the 1st Vict., c. 26, intitled an Act for Amending the Laws with respect to Wills. Passed 17th June. This Act, passed for the sole purpose of obviating the present over-particularity as to the signature of wills, provides, as far as regards the position of the signature, that every will shall be valid if signed by the testator at, after, under, or beside the end of the will, or if the signature do not immediately follow the end of the will, or if it be among the words of the attesting clause, or among the names of the attesting witnesses, or be on a blank side of the will; it must however be apparent on the face of the will that the testator intended to give effect by such his signature, to the writing signed as his will. Except under certain circumstances, this Act will apply to wills made before its passing.
- Cap. 25. An Act to Amend the 6th and 7th W. 4, c. 86, an Act for Registering Births, Deaths, and Marriages in England. Passed 17th June. In consequence of some doubts on the subject, this Act is passed to empower the Lords of the Treasury to provide a general Register Office in any place fit and convenient for the purpose.
- Cap. 26. An Act to enable her Majesty to carry into effect Arrangements made with Foreign Powers for the Apprehension of Seamen who Desert from their Ships. Passed 17th June. By this statute, to be cited as the "Foreign Deserters Act," whenever it appears that due facilities are given for apprehending seamen deserting from British merchant ships in the territory of a foreign power, her Majesty may, by Order in Council, declare that seamen, not being slaves, who desert from merchant ships belonging to a subject of such power, may be apprehended and given up within her dominions or the territories of the East India Company. Justices of the Peace, on application of a foreign Consul, or his agent, are to aid in the apprehension and sending on board of foreign deserters of this class. Persons harbouring or protecting such deserters are liable to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds.
- Cap. 27. An Act to Amend the Law of Evidence in Scotland. Passed 17th June.—By this Act, witnesses in Scotland are not to be excluded from giving evidence by reason of crime, interest, agency, or partial counsel, or by reason of appearing without citation, or being preconceived subsequent to citation. Parties to actions may be adduced as witnesses, unless it be shown they have a substantial interest.
- Cap. 28. An Act to Amend the 14th and 15th Vict., c. 42, an Act for the Direction of Public Works and Buildings, and to vest the Building appropriated for the Accommodation of the Supreme Courts of Justice in Edinburgh, in the Commissioners of her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings. Passed 17th June.
- Cap. 29. An Act to Empower the Commissioners of her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings to Enclose and Lay Out Kennington Common, in the County of Surrey, as Pleasure Grounds for the Recreation of the Public. Passed 17th June.
- Cap. 30. An Act to Empower the Commissioners of her Majesty's Customs to acquire certain Lands and Houses in the Borough of Belfast, for the purpose of Erecting a Custom House and other Offices and Building, required for the Public Service in the said Borough. Passed 17th June.
- Cap. 31. An Act to Legalise the Formation of Industrial and Provident Societies, Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 32. An Act to Alter and Amend certain Provisions in the Laws relating to the Number and Election of Magistrates and Councilors in the Burghs in Scotland. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 33. An Act to Confirm certain Provisional Orders made under the 14th and 15th Vict., c. 33, "To Facilitate Arrangements for the Relief of Turnpike Trusts, and to make certain Provisions respecting Exemptions from Tolls." Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 34. An Act to Extend the 10 and 11 Vict. c. 32, an Act to Facilitate the Improvement of Landed Property in Ireland, and the Acts amending the same, to the Election of Scotch Mills for Flax in Ireland. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 35. An Act to Amend the 14th and 15th Vict., c. 87, an Act to Regulate certain Proceedings in relation to the Election of Representative Peers for Scotland. Passed 30th June. By this Act a Peer of Scotland, with regard to taking the oaths required by law, to entitle him to vote by proxy or signed list at the election of representative Peers for Scotland may take and subscribe them in the superior courts of Ireland, before the Lieutenant of a county, or a Privy Councillor in Great Britain or Ireland, or an Ambassador or Secretary of Legation, or the Governor or Judge of a colony.
- Cap. 36. An Act to Amend the Law relating to the Certifying and Registering Places of Religious Worship of Protestant Dissenters. Passed 30th June. By this Act, places of meeting of any congregation or assembly for religious worship of Protestants dissenting from the Church of England, are, for the future, to be certified to the Registrar-General, through the Superintendent Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, of the place where the dissenting meeting is held. 2s. 6d. are to be charged for each certificate.
- Cap. 37. An Act to Continue the Poor-law Commission for Ireland until the 23d July, 1854, and thenceforth until the end of the then next Session of Parliament. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 38. An Act to Explain the 12 Vict., c. 8, and the 12 & 13 Vict., c. 64, two Acts concerning the Appointments of Overseers, and the Authority of Justices of the Peace to act in certain matters relating to the Poor in Cities and Boroughs. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 39. An Act to Remove Doubts as to the Lands and casual Revenues of the Crown in the Colonies and Foreign Possessions of her Majesty. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 40. An Act for Carrying into Execution an Agreement for the Sale of Property belonging to her Majesty, in right of her Crown, and of her Duchy of Lancaster, to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue; and for Enabling such Commissioners to Dispose of their present Chief Office, and other Property in the City of London. Passed June 30.
- Cap. 41. An Act to Provide a Burial-ground for the Township of Huddersfield, in the County of York. Passed June 30.
- Cap. 42. An Act Confirming certain Provisional Orders of the General Board of Health, and to Amend the Public Health Act, 1848. Passed June 30.
- Cap. 43. An Act to Repeal certain Disabilities under 1st Geo. 1, c. 13, and 6th Geo. 3, c. 53, by which many legal disabilities, and a penalty of £500, are imposed upon any member of either House of Parliament presuming to vote, or make his proxy, without having taken the Oath of Abjuration. The present statute, passed the 30th of June, repeals the legal disabilities consequent on such omission, but leaves the pecuniary penalty unaltered.
- Cap. 44. An Act to Amend and Consolidate the Laws relating to the Carriage of Passengers by Sea. Passed the 30th June. This important and extensive statute, to be entitled the "Passengers Act, 1852," extends to every passenger-ship proceeding from the United Kingdom to any place out of Europe, not within the Mediterranean Sea, or proceeding on a colonial voyage. The statute does not extend to ships of war, nor to ships in the service of the Admiralty, nor to ships of war or transports in the East India Company's service; nor steam-vessels carrying the Royal mails. The provisions of the statute are very numerous; the purport of them is to provide Emigration Commissioners, and officers who are to inspect and certify as to passenger-ships; to secure proper arrangements for the comfort and health of passengers; to establish the rights and duties of passengers, officers, and passage-brokers; to impose penalties for acts of omission and commission against the act; and to define and provide for colonial voyages and voyages to the United Kingdom.
- Cap. 45. An Act for Making a Turnpike-road between Stone Creek and Sunk Island Church, in the county of York; and between Sunk Island Church and Pattingham Haven; and for Consolidating with such roads the present Turnpike-road from Sunk Island Church to Ottringham; and for Constructing Quays and Wharfs at Stone Creek. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 46. An Act to Amend the 11th Geo. 4, c. 20, a Statute for Amending and Consolidating the Laws relating to the Pay of the Royal Navy. Passed 30th June. This act repeals, since the 1st October, 1852, the 18th section of the 11th Geo. 4, c. 20, and provides that all Parliamentary supplies for naval purposes shall be first appropriated to the punctual payment of the officers and men of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines according to the regulations prescribed by the Admiralty. Not more than the gross amount of three months' pay and wages is for the future to be allowed to remain due.
- Cap. 47. An Act to Enable her Majesty to Abolish, otherwise than by Treaty, on Condition of Reciprocity, Differential Duties on Foreign Ships. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 48. An Act for the Amendment of the Law respecting the Property of Lunatics. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 49. An Act to Extend the Provisions of the Several Acts passed for the Conveyance of Sites for Schools. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 50. An Act to Consolidate and Amend the Laws relating to the Militia in England. Passed 30th June.—This statute, after providing as to the qualification, rank, and appointment of officers in the militia, enacts that it shall be lawful for the Crown to keep up any number of militia-men not exceeding 80,000 privates; 50,000 of whom may be raised in 1852, and 30,000 in 1853, and any deficiency may be made up in any future year: the quotas of counties are to be fixed by Order in Council. Militia-men are to be raised by voluntary enlistment; and when the full number cannot be so raised, or in case of actual invasion, or imminent danger of invasion, the number is

- to be raised by ballot. Men are not liable to be balloted for the militia after 35 years of age. In case of invasion, or imminent danger of invasion, her Majesty may raise the militia to 120,000 men. The statute contains provisions for the mode of enlisting and balloting for the militia, and for exercising and balloting the men. It makes regulations and exceptions as to the militia of the Tower Hamlets and the City of London. By s. 33 of the statute, Quakers are no longer liable to be committed to gaol when sufficient of their goods cannot be found to levy a distress upon for their not paying for a substitute.
- Cap. 51. An Act to Extend the Provisions of the Acts for the Commutation of Manorial Rights, and for the Gradual Enfranchisement of Lands of Copyhold on Customary Tenure. Passed 30th June.—By this statute, after the next admittance to lands of copyhold and customary tenure which shall take place on or subsequent to the 1st July, 1853, the tenant so admitted, or the lord may require and compel the enfranchisement of such lands, in manner according to this Act. The statute then proceeds to enact the conditions and mode of enfranchisement.
- Cap. 52. An Act to Enable Colonial and other Bishops to Perform Certain Episcopal Functions under Commission from Bishops of England and Ireland. Passed 30th June, 1852.
- Cap. 53. An Act to Provide for the Exercise of Certain Powers Vested in the Bishop of Quebec in Respect of Districts Severed from his Diocese. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 54. An Act Further to Facilitate and Arrange Proceedings in the County Courts. Passed 30th June.—By this Act, five County-Court Judges, appointed for the purpose by the Lord Chancellor, are to frame a scale of fees, to be submitted to three or more Judges of the Superior Courts for approval. The Clerk of a County Court may tax costs. Appeals from County Courts may be heard in term, as well as out of term. The jurisdiction of a Court of local jurisdiction may be excluded from that of the County Court. A party to the suit or proceeding; an attorney of the Superior Courts, acting generally for the party, but not an attorney retained merely as the advocate of another attorney; a barrister retained by or on behalf of the party, but without right of exclusive or pre-audience; or any other person allowed by the Judge to appear instead of the party, may address the Court, subject to the Judge's regulations. The salaries of Judges are to be from £1200 to £1500 a year; the greatest salary to a Clerk is to be £700 a year. The Lord Chancellor may order a retiring pension, not exceeding two thirds of his salary, to be paid to a County-Court Judge. No County-Court Judge can practice at the bar as a special pleader, equity draftsman, conveyancer, or attorney. The statute also makes provisions as to abolishing certain Hundred Courts, and as to audits of accounts, fees, compensations, and registry of judgments.
- Cap. 55. An Act to Extend the Provisions of the Trustee Act, 1850. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 56. An Act for Regulating the Qualifications of Pharmaceutical Chemists. Passed 30th June.—This Act confirms the Charter of Incorporation granted to the "Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain," and enlarges the powers of that society. The society can make bye-laws, elect members, conduct examinations, grant certificates, and register certificated persons as pharmaceutical chemists. Persons not duly registered shall not assume or use the name or title of pharmaceutical chemists, or any name, title, or sign implying the same, under a penalty of £5. False registration, or the procuring of a false certificate, are misdemeanors.
- Cap. 57. An Act to Provide for more effectual Inquiry into the Existence of Corrupt Practices at Elections for Members to Serve in Parliament. Passed 30th June.—By this Act her Majesty may, upon address of both Houses of Parliament, appoint commissioners to make inquiry into corrupt practices at all elections of Members to serve in Parliament: the Act provides for the conducting of the inquiry when ordered.
- Cap. 58. An Act to Continue certain Turnpike Acts in Great Britain. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 59. An Act to Continue, until the 23d July, 1854, and thenceforth until the end of the then next Parliamentary Session, the Poor-law Board. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 60. An Act to Continue until the 1st January, 1854, and until the end of the then next Parliamentary Session, the 11 & 12 Vict., c. 13, an Act for amending the Laws relating to Savings Banks in Ireland. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 61. An Act to Amend the Laws relating to Summary Proceedings for Penalties and Forfeitures under the Acts relating to the Excise. Passed 30th June. By this Act, informations for penalties or forfeitures under the Excise Laws within the limits of the chief office in London, may be heard and determined either by three or more Commissioners of Inland Revenue, or by a Metropolitan Police Magistrate. The Commissioners may hear the informations at the chief office, or at any place within its limits.
- Cap. 62. An Act to Alter and Amend certain Acts relating to the Woods and Forests, and Land Revenues of the Crown. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 63. An Act to Amend the Laws relating to the Valuation of Rateable Property in Ireland. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 64. An Act to Continue until the 7th August, 1853, and Amend as to Rating, the Metropolitan Sewers Act. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 65. An Act to Continue to the 1st October, 1853, and to the end of the then next session of Parliament, and to Amend, as to Payment of Salaries, and also Accounts, the 13th and 14th Vic., c. 115, an Act to Consolidate and Amend the Laws Relating to Friendly Societies. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 66. An Act to Continue, till the 31st August, 1853, the 11th and 12th Vic., c. 2, an Act for the Better Prevention of Crime and Outrage in certain parts of Ireland. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 67. An Act to Continue the Powers of Applying for a Sale of Lands under the Act for Facilitating the Sale and Transfer of Encumbered Estates in Ireland. Passed 30th June.—This Act continues the former Act for one year, by making the time for application within four, instead of three years, from the passing of the former Act.
- Cap. 68. An Act for the Application of Certain Moneys Accrued from Fines and Forfeitures in Ireland, in Aid of certain Distressed Unions and Electoral Divisions in that country. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 69. An Act to Confirm certain Provisional Orders of the General Board of Health. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 70. An Act for Authorising the Occupation of the House of Correction, recently erected by and for the City of London, at Holloway, in the county of Middlesex. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 71. An Act to Amend the 9th and 10th Vic., c. 39—an Act for the Embankment of a portion of the River Thames. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 72. An Act to grant a Representative Constitution to the Colony of New Zealand. Passed 30th June. This statute, after establishing six provinces in New Zealand, viz., Auckland, New Plymouth, Wellington, Nelson, Canterbury, and Otago, gives a Provincial Council to each province, and appoints a General Assembly for the whole colony, to consist of the Governor, a Legislative Council, and House of Representatives.
- Cap. 73. An Act to Make Provisions for a Permanent Establishment of Officers to perform the Duties at *Nisi Prius*, in Relation to Ordinary Trials in the Superior Courts of Common Law, and for the Payment of such Officers, and of the Judges' Clerks, by Salaries, and to Abolish certain Offices in those Courts. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 74. An Act to Defray the Charge of the Pay, Clothing, and Contingent and other Expenses of the Disembodied Militia in Great Britain and Ireland; to Grant Allowances in certain Cases to Subaltern Officers, Adjutants, Paymasters, Quartermasters, Surgeons, Assistant Surgeons, Surgeons' Mates, and Sergeant Majors of the Militia, and to Authorise the Employment of the Non-Commissioned Officers. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 75. An Act to Suspend until the 1st October, 1853, the Making of Lists and the B. llets and Enrolments for the Militia of the United Kingdom. Passed 30th June, 1852.—The provisions of this Act, however, by its 3d Section, are, as to England, to be subject to any Militia Act passed in the same Session.
- Cap. 76. An Act to Amend the Process, Practice, and Mode of Pleading in the Superior Courts of Common Law, at Westminster, and in the Superior Courts of the Counties Palatine of Lancaster and Durham. Passed 30th June. This important statute, to come in force on the 24th October, 1852, is by far too lengthy and technical in its details to admit of explanation here. Suffice it to observe, that its purport and plan are to reduce the expense and difficulty of bringing an action at law in the superior common law courts, to facilitate the service of writs on defendants, thereby a power of serving them abroad, to abolish a great deal of the embarrassing intricacies of pleading, and to shorten the time of obtaining judgments, and increase their power and effect when obtained.
- Cap. 77. An Act to Abolish the Office of Lord Chancellor's Secretary of Bankruptcy, and to regulate the office of Chief Registrar of the Court of Bankruptcy. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 78. An Act to enable the Commissioners of her Majesty's Woods and Public Buildings to complete Improvements in Pimlico and in the neighbourhood of Buckingham Palace. Passed 30th June.
- Cap. 79. An Act to Amend and further Extend the Acts for the Inclosure, Exchange, and Improvement of Land. Passed 30th June. By this Act no lands are to be inclosed without the previous authority of Parliament in each particular case.
- Cap. 80. An Act to Abolish the Office of Master in Ordinary of the High Court of Chancery, and to make provision for the more speedy and efficient despatch of business in the said court. Passed 30th June. The principal features of this statute are the Abolition of Masters in Chancery for the future, the retirement of two of the present Masters on the first day of Michaelmas term, 1852, the gradual removal of the other Masters as their present unfinished business terminates, the future performance of their duties by the Master of the Rolls and the Vice-Chancellors sitting in Chambers, by certain chief and other clerks, by six conveying counsel, and by the Courts being assisted by calling in merchants, accountants, engineers, and other scientific persons.
- Cap. 81. An Act to Consolidate and Amend the Statutes relating to the Assessment and Collection of County Rates in England and Wales. Passed 30th June.—By this Act, Justices at General or Quarter Sessions are to appoint committees, of from five to ten of themselves, for preparing a basis or standard for assessing County Rates, which basis will be deemed valid after confirmation by Courts of General or Quarter Sessions.
- Cap. 82. An Act to Apply a Sum out of the Consolidated Fund, and certain other Sums, to the service of year 1852, and to appropriate the Supplies granted in this Session of Parliament. Passed 1st July.
- Cap. 83. An Act for Amending the Law for Granting Patents for Inventions. Passed 1st July.—This Act, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1852, gives increased facilities to seeking and procuring patent privileges. It extends a single patent to the whole United Kingdom, and considerably reduces the expenses of obtaining it, which are to be paid by instalments, and not all at once, as before.
- Cap. 84. An Act to Make Better Provision respecting the Supply of Water to the Metropolis. Passed 1st July.—This Act restricts, after the 31st August, 1855, the future supply, by companies, of water from the Thames to the metropolis to that part of the river above Teddington Lock: this restriction will not, however, affect the Chelsea Waterworks Company until the 31st August, 1856. The statute provides as to having the water brought in closed aqueducts, and being filtered, and as to companies procuring water from new sources.
- Cap. 85. An Act to Amend the Laws concerning the Burial of the Dead in the Metropolis. Passed 1st July.—By this Act, which repeals the "Metropolitan Interments Act, 1850," the Queen, on representation of a Secretary of State, may order the discontinuance of burials in any particular part of the metropolis. No new burial-ground is to be provided and used in the metropolis, or within two miles of it, without the approval of a Secretary of State. The statute then provides as to restricts establishing burial-grounds, and as to the regulations connected with them. It also saves the rights of certain metropolitan cemeteries already established.
- Cap. 86. An Act to Amend the Practice and Course of Proceeding in the High Court of Chancery. Passed 1st July.—This Act, like the Common Law Procedure Act, is by far too extensive and technical to be here detailed or explained. The object and plan of it are to facilitate suits in Chancery by easier and less expensive process; by improved means of taking evidence, now to be both written and oral; and by readier powers of bringing parties and matters exclusively before the Court of Chancery without the additional necessity of having recourse to courts of law.
- Cap. 87. An Act for the Relief of the Suitors of the High Court of Chancery. Passed 1st July.—This is also an Act for lessening the expenses of the Court of Chancery, by paying the officers of the Court by salaries instead of fees; and by substituting stamps instead of money for liquidating the charges payable in relation to proceedings in the Court.
- Cap. 88. An Act to Remove Doubts as to the Constitution of the Bishopric of Christchurch, in New Zealand; and to Enable Her Majesty to constitute such Bishopric, and to Subdivide the Diocese of New Zealand.—Passed 1st July.

Among the one hundred and sixty-eight local and personal Acts passed in the last session of Parliament, there are forty-nine relative to railways. Chapter 77 of these local and personal statutes is "An Act for the More Easy Recovery of Small Debts and Demands within the City of London and the Liberties thereof." Chapter 100 is "An Act to Confer Additional Facilities for the Insurance of Railway Passengers, and other Persons, by 'The Railway Passengers Assurance Company.' Among the private Acts, there is one, not printed, for a divorce, viz., to dissolve the marriage of Septimus Moore Hawkins, Esq., with Harriette Lavinia Hawkins.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1853.

THE LATE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

At Walmer Castle, Kent, in the afternoon of Tuesday, Sept. 14, 1852, expired, after a few hours' illness, Arthur Duke of Wellington, in his 84th year. The startling intelligence reached London by electric telegraph; but was not credited by Lord Fitzroy Somerset at Apsley House, until the express arrived, so unexpected was the calamitous event by which Great Britain was deprived of her illustrious soldier and statesman.

Arthur Wesley (for this was his grandfather's name, and thus the Duke wrote his own name until after he arrived in India) was the fifth son of the first Earl of Mornington, and was descended by blood from the Wesleys or Wellesleys, of Dangan, co. Meath: Catherine Cusack, who married Sir Henry Colley, of Castle Carberry, and was direct ancestress of the Duke, was daughter of Sir Thomas Cusack, of Cussington, Lord Chancellor of Ireland, whose mother was Alison, daughter of William Wellesley (corrupted into Wesley), of Dangan.

The Duke was born in Ireland, in 1769; whether on May, or April 30; or in Dangan Castle, or in Mornington House, Upper Merrion-street, Dublin, is disputed. Arthur was educated at Chelsea, then sent to Eton for a short time; next to private tuition at Brighton; and next to the military seminary of Angers, in France, where he remained five years.

On March 7, 1787, when not quite 18, he received a commission as ensign in the 73rd regiment of Foot; and in December of that year was promoted to a Lieutenancy, first in the 76th, whence he moved into the 41st, and then into the 12th Light Dragoons; on June 30, 1791, he obtained a company in the 56th Foot, but exchanged in the same year into the 18th Light Dragoons. On April 30, 1793, he became major of the 33rd regiment, the Lieutenancy-colonelcy of which he purchased in the September of that year, when he was only twenty-four years of age. Before this, in 1790, he was returned to the Irish Parliament for the family borough of Trim.

In 1794, Lieutenant-Colonel Wesley embarked with his regiment at Cork for Ostend, and joined the British Army in the Netherlands, under the command of the Duke of York: in which campaign Wesley's skill and intelligence were very promising. The army returned to England in 1795; and in February, 1797, Lieut.-Col. Wesley, with his regiment, arrived in Bengal; and in May, 1798, his elder brother, the Earl of Mornington, succeeded to the general government of India. In 1799, Colonel Wellesley was appointed to command the subsidiary force of the Nizam, the 33rd regiment being attached to it; and in the same year he captured Seringapatam, and was appointed to its command, with Mysore. In 1800, Col. Wellesley defeated Dhondiah Waugh, a Mahratta freebooter.

In 1803, Wellesley was present at the siege and capture of Ahmednugger, Baroach, Asseerghur, and Gawighur; and Sept. 23, he fought the battle of As-aye, at which he commanded as Major-General, and with 8000 men defeated an army of 60,000; this being his first great battle. In 1804, a sword of £1000 value, and a service of plate, were voted to him; he was appointed a K.C.B.; and left the army for Seringapatam. In 1805, he resigned the command of the army of the Deccan, received the thanks of the King and Parliament for his service, and returned to England, and married the Hon. Katherine Pakenham, daughter of Lord Longford.

In 1806, Arthur Wellesley was appointed Colonel of the 33rd regiment; and in the same year was returned to Parliament. In 1807, he was appointed Secretary to Ireland; and, in the same year, was with the expedition to Copenhagen, under Lord Cathcart, and received for his services the special thanks of Parliament.

In 1808, Sir Arthur Wellesley sailed for Portugal; and, in the same year, fought the battles of Rolica and Vimiera; and returned to England after the Convention of Cintra.

In 1809, he resigned as Secretary of Ireland; returned to Portugal, and defeated Soult at the passage of the Douro; fought the battle of Talavera; and was created a Peer. In 1810 he fought the battle of Busaco; after which he made his famous defence in the lines of Torres Vedras, where he maintained his position ten weeks in the face of a well-disciplined army of 50,000 men. In 1811 he advanced from Torres Vedras, and defeated the French at Fuentes d'Onore. In 1812 he took Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz by storm, the rapidity of which so astonished the French Generals that they confessed themselves "unable to account for it." In the same year Lord Wellington fought the battle of Salamanca, one of his most splendid victories: French loss, 14,000; British, 5200. In 1813 (June 21), he fought the battle of Vitoria: French loss, 8000 men; British and Allies, 4914. In the same year were also fought the battles of the Pyrenees, and San Sebastian taken by storm; the passage of the Nivelle made, and the battles on the Nive fought. On July 3, Wellington was gazetted as Field-Marshal.

In 1814, the victory at Orthez was gained, with a loss on the French side of 14,000 men, the greater portion deserting; British loss, 2300 men: "in the battle the French met the charge like lions, but the pursuit was like hare-hunting: prisoners were literally caught by the skirts as they ran." In the same year was fought the battle of Toulouse, in which Soult's best troops were routed. On June 28, the victor took his seat in the House of Peers as Baron, Viscount, Earl, Marquis, and Duke; on July 9, was entertained at Guildhall; and November 1, assisted at the Congress of Vienna.

In 1815 he won his crowning victory at Waterloo: the army of the Allies was opposed to an army of 70,000 French troops, chosen veterans, commanded by Napoleon himself; while the force commanded by the Duke of Wellington, consisted of English, Scotch, and Irish, and also of Dutch, Brunswickers, Hanoverians, Belgians, and Nassau troops, forming in the whole, what the Duke himself thought a "sad mixture," compared to his old trained veterans of the Peninsula—many of whom had sailed for America, with which country we were then at war.

The following is a chronological enumeration of the principal events in the life of the Duke as a civilian, from the year 1815:—

1818.	Assists at the Congress of Aix-la-Chapelle	Oct
	Appointed Field-Marshal in the Austrian, Russian, and Prussian Armies	Oct
	The evacuation of France by the Allied Armies	1 Nov
	Appointed Master-General of the Ordnance	26 Dec
1819	Appointed Governor of Plymouth	9 Dec
1820	Appointed Colonel in Chief of the Rifle Brigade	19 Feb
1821	Attends George IV., King of England, to the field of Waterloo	1 Oct
1822	Statue of Achilles inscribed to the Duke, in Hyde Park	18 June
	Assists at the Congress of Verona	22 Oct

1826	Proceeds on an especial embassy to St. Petersburg	Feb
	Removes from the Government of Plymouth to be Constable of the Tower of London	29 Dec
1827.	Appointed Colonel of the Grenadier Guards	22 Jan
	Appointed Commander-in-Chief	22 Jan
	Resigns	30 April
	Re-appointed	27 Aug

1828.	The King having called upon him to serve in the office of First Lord of the Treasury, he resigns the command of the army	15 Feb
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1829.	Appointed Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports	20 Jan
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1830.	Resigns the office of First Lord of the Treasury	Oct
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1834.	Elected Chancellor of the University of Oxford	Jan
	Intrusted by the King with the whole charge of the Government and the seals of the three Secretaries of State	Nov
	Continues Secretary of Foreign Affairs	Dec

1835.	Resigns the Foreign Secretaryship	April
	Receives Queen Adelaide, as Chancellor of the University of Oxford	19 Oct

1837.	Received with great cordiality by the people at the coronation of Queen Victoria	23 June
	Presides at a meeting to erect a monument to Lord Nelson	1 Aug

1839.	Grand entertainment given to the Duke at Dover	30 Aug
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1841.	Peel Ministry: the Duke in the Cabinet, without office	Sept
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1842.	Her Majesty visits the Duke at Walmer Castle	
	The Duke appointed Commander of the Forces	Dec

1844.	Equestrian statue of the Duke inaugurated at Glasgow	8 Oct
	Equestrian statue of the Duke, Royal Exchange, inaugurated	18 June

1845.	Her Majesty visits the Duke at Stratfieldsay	20 June
	First stone of the Waterloo barracks, in the Tower, laid by the Duke	14 June

1846.	Peel Ministry resigns: the Duke retires from the Cabinet	6-July
	Colossal equestrian statue of the Duke erected upon the arch, Green Park	30 Sept

1848.	Publication of the Duke's letter to Sir John Bargoynne, on the national defences	Jan
	The Duke directs great preparations to prevent a Chartist outbreak	10 April
	Statue of the Duke erected in the Tower	Oct

1850.	The Duke sponsor at the baptism of the infant Prince Arthur	22 June
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1851.	The Duke present at the Opening of the Great Exhibition	1 May
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1852.	Equestrian statue of the Duke at Edinburgh inaugurated	18 June
	Death at Walmer Castle	14 Sept

MILITARY SERVICES.

	From	To	Yrs	days
Ensign	March 7, 1787	Dec. 24, 1787	0	293
Lieutenant	Dec. 25, 1787	June 29, 1791	3	187
Captain	June 30, 1791	April 29, 1793	1	304
Major	April 30, 1793	Sept. 29, 1793	0	153
Lieutenant-Colonel	Sept. 30, 1793	May 2, 1795	2	215
Ditto and Colonel	May 3, 1796	April 28, 1802	5	215
Major-General	April 29, 1802	April 24, 1808	5	361
Lieutenant-General	April 25, 1808	July 30, 1811	3	97
General, in Spain and Portugal	July 31, 1811	June 20, 1813	1	325
Field Marshal	June 21, 1813	Sept. 14, 1852	29	86
Service as above			65	192
Age on entering the Army			17	310

Total 83 137
His age at decease, September 14, 1852.

THE DUKE'S TITLES, OFFICES, ETC.

Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, Marquis of Wellington, Marquis of Douro, Earl of Wellington, county of Somerset; Viscount Wellington, of Talavera, and Baron Douro, of Wellesley, county of Somerset, in the peerage of the United Kingdom; Prince of Waterloo, in the Netherlands; Duke of Ciudad Rodrigo, and a first-class Grandee, of Spain; Duke of Vitoria, Marquis of Torres Vedras, and Count of Vimiera, in Portugal. The Duke was a Knight of the Garter, and a Privy Councillor; Commander-in-Chief of the British army; a Field-Marshal in the armies of Britain, Russia, Prussia, Austria, Spain, Portugal, and the Netherlands; Colonel of the Grenadier Guards; Colonel-in-Chief of the Rifle Brigade; G.C.B., G.C.H.; Knight of the Golden Fleece of Spain, and the Black Eagle of Prussia; of the Tower and Sword of Portugal; the Sword of Sweden, of St. Andrew of Russia, Maria Theresa of Austria, and of all the most distinguished foreign orders; was Constable of the Tower and of Dover Castle; Warden, Chancellor, and Admiral of the Cinque Ports; Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire, and of the Tower Hamlets; Ranger of St. James's Park and of Hyde Park; Chancellor of the University of Oxford, Commissioner of the Royal Military College and Royal Military Asylum, Vice-President of the Scottish Naval and Military Academy, Master of the Trinity House, a Governor of King's College and of the Charterhouse; a Trustee of the Hunterian Museum, and D.C.L.



FIELD-MARSHAL HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON, BY SIR THOMAS LAWRENCE.

THE QUEEN AND ROYAL FAMILY.

THE QUEEN.—VICTORIA, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, was born at Kensington Palace, May 24th, 1819; succeeded to the throne, June 20th, 1837, on the death of her uncle, King William IV.; was crowned June 28th, 1838; and married, February 10th, 1840, his Royal Highness Prince Albert. Her Majesty is the only child of his late Royal Highness Edward Duke of Kent, son of King George III.

His Royal Highness Francis ALBERT-ANGUSTUS-CHARLES-EMANUEL-BUSIEL, DUKE OF SAXE, PRINCE OF COBURG AND GOTHA, K.G., Consort of her Majesty, born August 26th, 1819.

The children of her Majesty are:—

Her Royal Highness Victoria-Adelaide-Mary-Louisa, PRINCESS ROYAL, born November 21st, 1840.

His Royal Highness Albert-Edward, PRINCE OF WALES, born November 9th, 1841.

Her Royal Highness Alice-Maud-Mary, born April 25th, 1843.

His Royal Highness Alfred-Ernest-Albert, born August 6th, 1844.

Her Royal Highness Helena-Augusta-Victoria, born May 25, 1846.

Her Royal Highness Princess Louisa-Caroline-Alberta, born March 18, 1848.

His Royal Highness Arthur-William-Patrick-Albert, born May 1st, 1850.

George-Frederick-William-Charles, K.G., DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, cousin to her Majesty, born March 26th, 1819.

MARY, Aunt to her Majesty, born April 25th, 1776; married, July 22nd, 1816, her cousin, the Duke of Gloucester, deceased.

Victoria-Mary-Louisa, DUCHESS OF KENT, born August 17th, 1786; married, in 1818, the Duke of Kent (who died January 23rd, 1820); her Majesty's mother.

Augusta-Wilhelmina-Louisa, DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE, niece of the Landgrave of Hesse, born July 25th, 1795; married, in 1818, the late Duke of Cambridge, by whom she has issue, George-William, Augusta-Caroline, and Mary-Adelaide.

George-Frederick-Alexander-Charles-Ernest-Augustus, K.G., only child of the King of Hanover, Prince Royal of Hanover, cousin to her Majesty; born May 27, 1819; married, February, 1843, Princess Mary of Saxe-Altenberg, and has a son.

Augusta-Caroline-Charlotte-Elizabeth-Mary-Sophia-Louisa, daughter of the late Duke of Cambridge, and cousin to her Majesty, born July 19th, 1822; married, June 28th, 1843, Frederick, Hereditary Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz.

Mary-Adelaide-Wilhelmina-Elizabeth, daughter of the late Duke of Cambridge, and cousin to her Majesty, born November 27th, 1833.

THE QUEEN'S HOUSEHOLD.

Lord Great Chamberlain ..	Lord Willoughby D'Eresby
Lord Steward ..	Duke of Montrose
Lord Chamberlain ..	Marquis of Exeter, P.C.
Vice-Chamberlain ..	Lord Newport, P.C.
Master of the Horse ..	Earl of Jersey
Clerk Marshal and Chief Equerry ..	Major-Gen Wemyss
Treasurer of the Household ..	Lord Claud Hamilton
Comptroller of the Household ..	Right Hon. G. S. Forester
Lord High Almoner ..	Bishop of Oxford
Sub-Almoner ..	Rev. Dr. Jeff
Clerk of the Closet ..	Bishop of Chester
Master of the Buckhounds ..	Earl of Rosslyn
Comptroller of Accounts ..	Lord Foley
Master of the Household ..	Lieut.-Col T. M. Biddulph
Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard ..	Lord De Ros
Captain of Gentlemen-at-Arms ..	Earl of Sandwich
Lords in Waiting ..	Earl of Morton, Earl of Verulam, Earl Talbot, Viscount Hawarden, Viscount Galway, Lord Crofton, Lord Polwarth, Rear-Admiral Lord Byron.
Mistress of the Robes ..	The Daches of Athol
Ladies of the Bedchamber ..	Duchess of Wellington, Countess of Charlemont, Countess of Mount-Edgcumbe, Countess of Desart, Countess of Gainsborough, Viscountess Jocelyn, Viscountess Cunningham, and Marchioness of Ely
Physicians ..	Dr. Locock, Dr. Ferguson
Surgeons ..	Sir B. C. Brodie, Bart., R. Keate, Esq.

HER MAJESTY'S MINISTERS.

OF THE CABINET.

First Lord of the Treasury (Premier) ..	Earl of Derby
Lord Chancellor ..	Lord St. Leonards
Lord President of the Council ..	Earl of Lonsdale
Lord Privy Seal ..	Marquis of Salisbury
Secretaries of State ..	Right Hon. S. H. Walpole
	Home Colonial Foreign
	Earl of Malmesbury
Chancellor of the Exchequer ..	Right Hon. Sir J. S. Pakington
President of the Board of Control ..	Right Hon. Benjamin Disraeli
President of the Board of Trade ..	Right Hon. J. C. Herries
First Lord of the Admiralty ..	Right Hon. J. W. Henley
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster ..	Duke of Northumberland
Commissioner of Public Works ..	Right Hon. R. A. Christopher
Postmaster-General ..	Lord John J. R. Manners
	Earl of Hardwicke

IRELAND.

Lord Lieutenant ..	Earl of Eglinton
Lord Chancellor ..	Right Hon. J. Blackburne
Attorney-General ..	Right Hon. Jos. Napier, M.P.
Solicitor-General ..	James Whiteside, Esq., M.P.

SCOTLAND.

Lord High Constable ..	The Earl of Errol
Lord Privy Seal ..	Viscount Melville
Lord Advocate ..	Right Hon. A. Rutherford

CITY OFFICERS.

LORD MAYOR.

Elected September 29th—Sworn in November 9th.
The Right Honourable THOMAS CHALLIS, Cripplegate Ward, 1843.

SHERIFFS.

Elected 24th June—Sworn in 28th September.

Alderman Carter.

Mr. Croll.

UNDER-SHERIFFS.

Thomas France, Esq.

D. W. Wire, Esq.

ALDERMEN.

THE FOLLOWING HAVE NOT PASSED THE CHAIR.

Sidney, Thomas, Esq., M.P., Billingsgate ..	..	..	1844
Moon, F. G., Esq., Portsoken ..	..	..	1844
Salomons, David, Esq., Cordwainer ..	..	..	1848
Finnis, Thomas Quested, Esq., Tower ..	..	..	1848
Lawrence, William, Esq., Bread-street ..	..	..	1848
Carden, Sir Robert Walter, Dowgate ..	..	..	1849
Wire, David W., Esq., Walbrook ..	..	..	1851
Cubitt, Sir William, Langbourne ..	..	..	1851
Carter, J., Esq., Cornhill ..	..	..	1851

THE FOLLOWING HAVE PASSED THE CHAIR.

Thompson, W., Esq., M.P., Bridge Without ..	..	..	1821
Key, Sir John Bart., Cheap ..	..	..	1823
Laurie, Sir Peter, Knt., Aldersgate ..	..	..	1826
Farebrother, C., Esq., Lime-street ..	..	..	1826
Copeland, W., Esq., M.P., Bishopsgate ..	..	..	1829
Kelly, T., Esq., Farringdon Within ..	..	..	1830
Wilson, Samuel, Esq., Castle Baynard ..	..	..	1831
Marshall, Sir C., Knt., Bridge Within ..	..	..	1832
Humphery, J., Esq., M.P., Aldgate ..	..	..	1835
Magnay, Sir William, Bart., Vintry ..	..	..	1838
Carroll, Sir George, Candlewick ..	..	..	1840
Hooper, John K. Esq., Queenhithe ..	..	..	1840
Duke, Sir James, M.P., Farringdon Without ..	..	..	1840
Farncomb, Thomas Esq., Bassishaw ..	..	..	1840
Musgrove, Sir John, Bart. Broad-street ..	..	..	1842
Hunter, William, Esq., Coleman-street Ward ..	..	..	1843

EAST INDIA COMPANY.

Six Directors are elected annually in April, when six go out by rotation. Each Director serves four years. The figure prefixed denotes the number of years each has to serve.

DIRECTORS.

(1) CHAIRMAN—Sir James Weir Hogg, Bart., M.P., 16, Grosvenor-square.	(1) Sir Henry Willock, K.L.S.
(4) DEPUTY CHAIRMAN—Russell Ellice, Esq., Brickendonbury, Hertford.	(2) Martin Tucker Smith, Esq., M.P.
(2) William Wigram, Esq.	(1) Lieut.-Col. William Henry Sykes.
(1) Sir Robert Campbell, Bart.	(2) W. H. C. Plowden, Esq., M.P.
(3) John Loch, Esq.	(2) Elliot Macnaghten, Esq.
(3) Charles Mills, Esq.	(1) John Clarmont Whiteman, Esq.
(4) John Masterman, Esq., M.P.	(4) Ross Donnelly Mangles, Esq., M.P.
(2) John Petty Muspratt, Esq.	(1) William Joseph Eastwick, Esq.
(2) Lieut-Gen. Sir J. L. Lushington,	(2) William Dent, Esq.
(3) Henry Shank, Esq.	(4) Major John Arthur Moore.
(4) Sir Richard Jenkins, G.C.B.	(3) John Harvey Astell, Esq.
(3) John Cotton, Esq.	
(4) William Butterworth Bayley, Esq.	

THE FOLLOWING GENTLEMEN ARE OUT BY ROTATION.

Henry Alexander, Esq.	Major James Olyphant.
Lieut-General James Caulfield, C.B.	Henry Thoby Prinsep, Esq.
Hon. Wm. Henry Leslie Melville.	John Shephard, Esq.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

GOVERNOR—Thomson Hankey, Jun., Esq.—DEPUTY GOVERNOR—John Gellibrand Hubbard, Esq.

DIRECTORS.

Thomas Baring, Esq.	Alexander Matheson, Esq.
Henry Wollaston Blake, Esq.	James Morris, Esq.
Henry Hulse Berens, Esq.	Sheffield Neave, Esq.
Arthur Edward Campbell, Esq.	George Warde Norman, Esq.
William Cotton, Esq.	John Horsley Palmer, Esq.
Bonamy Dobree, Esq.	Sir John Henry Pelly, Bart.
Charles Pascoe Grenfell, Esq.	Henry James Prescott, Esq.
John Benjamin Heath, Esq.	Thomas Charles Smith, Esq.
Charles Frederick Huth, Esq.	William Thompson, Esq., Alderman
George Lyall, Jun., Esq.	Thomas Tooke, Jun., Esq.
James Malcolmson, Esq.	Thomas Matthias Weguelin, Esq.
Thomas Masterman, Esq.	Francis Wilson, Esq.

LAW COURTS.

CHANCERY.—Lord High Chancellor, Lord St. Leonards. Master of the Rolls, Sir John Romilly. Vice-Chancellors: Sir George Turner, Sir Richard Kindersley, Sir J. Stuart.

LORDS JUSTICES OF APPEAL.—Sir James K. L. Bruce, Lord Cranworth.

QUEEN'S BENCH.—Lord Chief Justice, Lord Campbell. Judges, Sir John T. Coleridge, Sir Wm. Wightman, Sir Wm. Erle, Sir Charles Crompton.

COMMON PLEAS.—Lord Chief Justice, Sir John Jervis. Judges, Sir Wm. Hen. Maule, Sir C. Cresswell, Sir Edw. Vaughan Williams, Sir Thos. N. Talfourd.

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Lieutenant-Governor, Rear-Admiral Sir James Alexander Gordon, K.C.B.
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Commanders, C. Robinson, Sir William Dalyell, E. W. Garrett.
Lieutenants, F. Bedford, W. Rivers, M. Fitton, J. W. Rouse, D. O'Brien Casey, B. J. Loveless, J. Dornford, G. M. Monk.
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Surgeon, James M'Nernan
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Assisting Dispenser, A. Yair.

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Chaplain, Rev. George Fisher, M.A., F.R.S., &c.
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Queen's Advocate, Sir J. D. Harding, D.C.L.
Admiralty Adv., J. Phillimore, D.C.L.
Judge Advocate, H. J. Shepherd, Esq.
Queen's Proctor, F. H. Dyke, Esq.
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Hyde Park } Cambridge.
St. James's Park }
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Greenwich Park, the Earl of Aberdeen.
Hampton Court, Lady Bloomfield.
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Waltham Forest, Earl of Mornington.
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Inspector, H. Browne, Esq.
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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1853.

STAMP AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DUTIES.

ADVERTISEMENTS (3 and 4 Will. 4, c. 23).

For and in respect of every advertisement contained in or published with any gazette or other newspaper, or contained in or published with any other periodical paper, or in or with any pamphlet or literary work s. d. 1 6

AGREEMENTS.

Agreement, or any minute or memorandum of agreement, made in England or Ireland under hand only, or made in Scotland without any clause of registration (not charged otherwise than under the head "Agreement" in the schedule to the Act 55 Geo. 3, c. 184, nor expressly exempted from all Stamp Duty), where the matter thereof shall be of the value of £20 or upwards, whether the same shall be only evidence of a contract, or obligatory upon the parties from its being a written instrument, together with every schedule, receipt, or other matter put or indorsed thereon, or annexed thereto (Act of 1850, 13 and 14 Vict., c. 97) s. d. 2 6

And (by the same Act) where the same shall contain 2160 words or upwards, then, for every entire quantity of 1080 words contained therein over and above the first 1080 words, a further progressive duty of s. d. 2 6

LEASES.

Lease or tack, of any lands, tenements, hereditaments, or heritable subjects, at a yearly rent, without any sum of money by way of fine, premium, or grassum, paid for the same: where the yearly rent shall not exceed £5 s. d. 0 6
And where the same shall exceed £5, and not exceed £10 1 0
And where the same shall exceed £10, and not exceed £15 1 6
And where the same shall exceed £15, and not exceed £20 2 0
And where the same shall exceed £20, and not exceed £25 2 6
And where the same shall exceed £25, and not exceed £30 3 0
And where the same shall exceed £30, and not exceed £35 3 6
And where the same shall exceed £35, and not exceed £40 4 0
And where the same shall exceed £40, and not exceed £45 4 6
And where the same shall exceed £45, and not exceed £50 5 0
And where the same shall exceed £50, and not exceed £55 5 6
And where the same shall exceed £55, and not exceed £60 6 0
And where the same shall exceed £60, and not exceed £65 6 6
And where the same shall exceed £65, and not exceed £70 7 0
And where the same shall exceed £70, and not exceed £75 7 6
And where the same shall exceed £75, and not exceed £80 8 0
And where the same shall exceed £80, and not exceed £85 8 6
And where the same shall exceed £85, and not exceed £90 9 0
And where the same shall exceed £90, and not exceed £95 9 6
And where the same shall exceed £95, and not exceed £100 10 0
And where the same shall exceed £100, then for every £50, and also for any fractional part of £50 above 5 0

POWER OF ATTORNEY.

Letter or power of attorney, or commission or factory in the nature thereof s. d. 1 10 0
And where the same, together with any schedule or other matter put or endorsed thereon, or annexed thereto, shall contain 2160 words, or upwards, then, for every entire quantity of 1080 words contained therein, over and above the first 1080 words, a further progressive duty at 20s. under 55 George 3, but under act of 1850 0 10 0

NEWSPAPERS.

Newspapers (6 and 7 William 4, c. 76), for every sheet, or other piece of paper, whereon any newspaper shall be printed 0 0 1
[The Act also provides for additional duties on sheets exceeding a certain size and on Supplements, and defines what shall be deemed a newspaper, and what publications are exempted.]

INLAND BILLS AND PROMISSORY NOTES.

If	Not exceeding 2 months.	s. d.	Exc. 2 mo. s. d.
Above	£2 0	1 0	1 6
	5	1 6	2 0
	20	2 0	2 6
	30	2 6	3 0
	50	3 0	3 6
	100	4 0	4 6
	200	5 0	5 6
	300	6 0	6 6
	500	8 0	8 6
	1000	12 0	15 0
Above	2000	15 0	25 0
	3000 and upwards	25 0	30 0

RECEIPTS.

If	£5 and under	s. d.
Above	10	0 6
	20	1 0
	50	1 6
	100	2 0
	200	2 6
	300	3 0
	500	3 6
	1000	4 0
	1000 or upwards	4 6
	Receipts in full	10 0

PROTESTS.

Less than	s. d.
£20	2 0
£20 and 100	3 0
100 and 500	5 0
500 or upwards	10 0
Of any other kind	5 0
Bills of Lading	0 6
Charterparty	5 0

BILLS OF EXCHANGE.

When in sets, then for every bill of each set	s. d.
not exceeding £100	1 6
Above £100 & not exc.	200 3 0
" 200	500 4 0
" 500	1000 5 0
" 1000	2000 7 6
" 2000	3000 10 0
" 3000	15 0

DUTIES ON LEGACIES, &c. Of the value of £20, or upwards.

To children or their descendants, or lineal ancestors of the deceased	£1 0 0
Brother or sister, or their descendants	3 0 0
Uncle or aunt, or their descendants	£5 0 0
Grand-uncle or aunt, or their descendants	6 0 0
All other relations, or strangers	10 0 0

The husband or wife of the deceased not chargeable with duty.

APPRENTICES' INDENTURES.

Premium not amounting to	£30	£1 0	£400 & not amounting to	£500	£25 0
£30 and not amounting to	£50	2 0	500	600	30 0
50	100	3 0	600	800	40 0
100	200	6 0	800	1000	50 0
200	300	12 0	1000 or upwards		60 0
300	400	20 0	Duplicate		0 5

LICENSES.

For Marriage, if special	£5 0
Ditto, if not special	0 10
For Bankers	30 0
For Pawnbrokers, within the limits of the twopenny post	15 0
Elsewhere	7 10
For Appraisers	2 0
For Hawkers and Pedlars, on foot	4 0
Ditto, with one horse, ass, or mule	8 0
Stage Carriage License, for every carriage	3 3
Hackney Carriage License, for every carriage	5 0
Selling Beer, to be drunk on the Premises	3 3
Ditto, not to be drunk on the Premises	1 1

HORSE TAX.

FOR RIDING, OR DRAWING CARRIAGES.

No.	Each Horse.	No.	Each Horse.	No.	Each Horse.	No.	Each Horse.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1	1 8 9	6	2 18 0	11	3 3 6	16	3 3 9
2	2 7 3	7	2 19 9	12	3 3 6	17	3 4 0
3	2 12 3	8	2 19 9	13	3 3 9	18	3 4 6
4	2 15 0	9	3 0 9	14	3 3 9	19	3 5 0
5	2 15 9	10	3 0 6	15	3 3 9	20	3 6 0

Horses let to hire with post duty, each £1 8 9
Race Horses, each 3 10 0
Horses rode by butchers in their trade, each 1 8 9
Where two only are kept, the second at 0 10 6
Horses for riding, and not exceeding thirteen hands, each 1 1 0
One horse used by a bailiff on a farm 1 5 0
Other horses, thirteen hands high, and mules, each 0 10 6
A horse used for riding by any one occupying a farm of less annual value than £500, is exempt, provided not more than one is kept; as are also horses employed by market-gardeners in their business.

DUTIES ON CARRIAGES.

WITH FOUR WHEELS.

No.	Per carriage for private use.	No.	Per carriage for private use.	No.	Stage-coaches and post-chaises	No.	Stage-coaches and post-chaises
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1	6 0 0	5	7 17 6	1	5 5 0	5	26 5 0
2	6 10 0	6	8 4 0	2	10 10 0	6	31 10 0
3	7 0 0	7	8 10 0	3	15 15 0	7	36 15 0
4	7 10 0	8	8 16 0	4	21 0 0	8	42 0 0

WITH TWO WHEELS.

Carriages with two wheels, each £ 3 5 0
Ditto, drawn by two or more horses, or mules 4 10 0
For every additional body used on the same carriage 1 11 6
For every additional body 3 3 0
Carriages let by coachmakers, without horses 6 0 0
For every carriage with four wheels, being of less diameter than thirty inches each, where drawn by ponies or mules, above twelve and not exceeding thirteen hands, per annum, £3 5s.; if with less than four wheels, and the ponies not exceeding twelve hands, and not let for hire, exempt. For every carriage with four wheels, drawn by one horse and no more, per annum, £4 10s. Carriages with less than four wheels, drawn by one horse, and constructed and marked as described by Act 6 & 7 Wm. IV. c. 65, and 1 Vict. c. 61, not exceeding £21 in value; also common stage carts, constructed for the carriage of goods, and occasionally used for riding, are exempt.

DOGS.

For every greyhound £1 0 0
For every hound, pointer, setting dog, spaniel, terrier, or lurcher, and for every dog, where two or more are kept, of whatever denomination they may be (except greyhounds) 0 14 0
For every other dog, where one only is kept 0 8 0
Compounding a pack of hounds 36 0 0
Farmers with farms under £100 value, and shepherds, are exempt for dogs kept for the care of sheep.

HOUSE-TAX.

This Act repeals the duties payable on dwelling-houses according to the number of windows or lights, and grants in lieu thereof other duties on inhabited houses, according to their annual value. No market-garden or nursery-ground is to be included in the valuation of any dwelling-house. The duties made payable by this Act are:—
For every inhabited Dwelling House which, with the Household and other Office, Yards, and Gardens therewith occupied and charged, is or shall be worth the Rent of Twenty Pounds, or upwards, by the year,—
Where any such Dwelling House shall be occupied by any person in Trade, who shall expose to sale and sell any Goods, Wares, or Merchandise, in any Shop or Warehouse, being part of the same Dwelling House, and in the Front and on the Ground or Basement Storey thereof;
And also where any such Dwelling House shall be occupied by any Person who shall be duly licensed by the laws in force to sell therein by retail Beer, Ale, Wine, or other Liquors, although the room or rooms thereof in which any such Liquors shall be exposed to sale, sold, drunk, or consumed, shall not be such Shop or Warehouse as aforesaid;
And also where any such Dwelling House shall be a Farm-house occupied by a Tenant or Farm Servant and bona fide used for the purpose of Husbandry only, There shall be charged for every Twenty Shillings of such annual value of any such Dwelling House, the Sum of Sixpence.
And where any such Dwelling House shall not be occupied and used for any such purpose, and in manner aforesaid, there shall be charged for every Twenty Shillings of such annual value the sum of Ninepence.
** By cap. 17, 3 and 4 Vict., an additional £10 per cent. is imposed upon all the Assessed Taxes, Customs, and Excise.